

**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

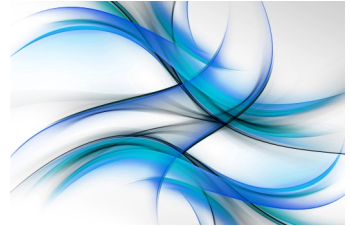
- May 29 McMinnville, Worship Doug/Cathy
- May 28 Dallas, Memorial Service Cathy/Doug
- May 26 Salem, Commission on Ministry Doug/Cathy
- May 24 Silverton, Santiam District Ministers Cathy/Doug
- May 23 Salem, FEDICE Dinner Doug/Cathy
- May 22 Northwood worship services Cathy
- May 22 Snake River District FEDICE program Doug
- May 22 Meridian, Parkview, Preaching Doug
- May 20-21 Springfield, Regional Assembly Cathy/Doug
- May 18 Ecumenical Ministries of OR banquet Doug
- May 17 Portland, United Methodist Gen. Conf. Doug
- May 15 Portland, Pacific Islands Family Church Doug
- May 15 Beaverton, Murray Hills, worship Doug
- May 14 Portland, Joyce Sawyer Memorial Doug/Cathy
- May 12 College of Regional Ministers Ex Cte Cathy
- May 8 Portland FCC, Worship Cathy/Doug
- May 4 Salem FCC Meeting Doug
- May 1 Grants Pass, Worship and Meeting Doug
- May 1 Albany, Worship and Meeting Cathy
- April 30 Salem, New Church Meeting Doug
- April 29 Albany, Ray Lindley Memorial Cathy



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FEDICE Ecuador News

The 2016 Regional Assembly in Springfield marked the start of a **new special mission project between Oregon-SW Idaho Disciples and FEDICE in Ecuador.** In our first, now completed project at Romerillos, 25 families received microloans to start raising green onions, cattle, guinea pigs, sheep or pigs. In this new project, **29 more families** will participate in a similar venture.

The Regional Board approved a goal of \$17,500 to raise for the new Romerillos project. This will provide microloans averaging \$500 per family. FEDICE asked for \$13,209 to be raised by Oregon-SW Idaho Disciples. The Regional Board said yes to this amount and added another \$4,291 to support FEDICE staff costs.

An advance gift, women's pray and play offerings, the One Fair World sales at Regional Assembly, and a special offering have supported the Romerillos project in the amount of \$7,743. **This leaves \$9,757 to be raised for the new Romerillos goal.**

Earthquake Response: Two major earthquakes hit the coastal region of Ecuador this spring. Disciples have responded through Global Ministries, Week of Compassion and FEDICE. At Regional Assembly, a special offering and the One Fair World sales raised \$1,952. Week of Compassion will match this amount for Ecuador Earthquake relief, for a total to date of \$3,904.

Visits: Blanca Puma and Luis Jara visited Regional Assembly, Meridian/Parkview, Salem, and Silverton in May.

Thirteen Oregon-SW Idaho Disciples will go to Ecuador in June!



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Camp Dates

June 6-10	Juniors, ID
June 24-26	Kids Camp, ID
July 25-30	Chi Rho, ID
July 31-Aug 5	Chi Rho, OR
July 31-Aug 5	CYF, OR
August 1-6	CYF, ID
August 8-12	Juniors, OR

News from our Congregations

Salem First: Nine baptisms on two Sundays in May .

Northwood: Donated shoes to the grade school across the street.

Parkview: Thank you for your hosting of the Snake River FEDICE District meeting!

Lynchwood: Live Streaming worship services.

Snake River District: Miracle Day for Cascade Christian Camp, May 28.

Blue Mountain District: 100% attendance of pastors at 2016 Regional Assembly.

Dallas: Online giving is set up.

McMinnville: Annual meeting and potluck, June 5.

Nampa: week day evening classes on the "Essentials of Christianity."

Corvallis: Baptism Sunday, May 22.

Grants Pass: weekday study group on "Exploring the Early Church."

Lebanon: Young adult Sunday in May.

Junction City: Youth Sunday and Dessert Auction on June 5

Save these dates!

June 4 Portland
Regional Board Meeting

June 9-20 Ecuador
Global Mission Trip

August 19-21 Cascade
Women's Retreat

September 17, 18, 24, 25
Mission First Events
Visit of Jim and Jayanthi Wilson

October 14-15 Beaverton
Women's Retreat



Future Story Launched at Regional Assembly in May



At this year's Assembly, our regional vision team consultant, Dick Hamm, shared the results of the regional church visioning process. The plan details how we will unite, support and equip Disciples in regional church ministries from 2016-19. We will also work at three areas of transition: a) from a co-ministry staffing model to team ministry; b) from shared history to shared future; and c) from indirect, institutional relationships to direct, personal relationships between persons and congregations. The takeaways: 1) We are a new regional church! Some congregations (20%) have started in the 21st century. Others (25%) have history with the South Idaho region. Just over half (55%) have twentieth century history in the Oregon region. 2) As a new regional church, we need to know each other better than we do. 3) To get to know each other better, we'll need some new tools, technology such as video conferencing, interpersonal insights from Anti-Racism/Pro-Reconciliation training, and some new part-time staff positions.

In the next three years, Oregon-SW Idaho Disciples will meet in some new ways, such as affinity (ministry interest) groups, district gatherings, and through the ministry of regional elders. We will continue many of the same ministries, too, such as camps, global ministries, new churches, leader training, women's and men's ministries, and pastoral searches. We will seek to build savings to support future ministries in the region.

Would you like to see some bigger goals? Great! Let's build our relationships and with that, our capacity. That's how it's done by the FEDICE ministry in Ecuador, one community at a time. We can do it too, as a new regional church. Thanks to all who have served on the Vision Team and who have participated in all the sessions. You can learn more by going to the regional church website link with follow up documents from the regional assembly in Springfield. There you will find links to a brochure and a slide show that outline the future story vision. The link is <http://www.oidisciples.org/#!/untitled/c1rp3>. At this link you will also find other items added in the next few weeks such as the video used by the vision team to launch our sessions, a video presentation by Dick Hamm introducing the vision, and the sermon shared by Doug and Cathy Wirt during the final worship time of regional assembly in which they also highlighted aspects of our new vision — “future story” — in a sermon reflecting on the text of Acts 2:1-4. More information will continue to be available about the “Future Story” of our regional church in this newsletter, on our website, and in other mailings both on line and hard copy in the months ahead.

In hope,
Cathy and Doug

Regional Church Elects new Officers at Assembly

The 2016 Regional Assembly elected new officers and board members for the Regional Board. Gary Allen, Pastor of New Hope Christian Church in Meridian and Christian Baptist Church in Mountain Home will serve as the Regional Moderator for two years. Serving with Gary will be: Neil Allen (The View) 1st Vice Moderator; Brenda Mikota (Portland FCC) 2nd Vice Moderator; Donna Culley, (Ontario) Treasurer; Craig Johnson (Salem), Finance; Bob Arnold (Salem) Commission on Ministry, and Geoff Speidel (Hood River) Moderator-Elect. The Assembly also elects three representatives for each of our five districts. In addition, if a congregation does not have a representative on the board through these officers and members, the congregation is eligible to appoint a representative from their congregation.



Thank you to Northwood for Hosting Regional Assembly

Thank you to the amazing crew at the Northwood Christian Church for the superb way that the membership hosted our regional assembly in May. Led by **Thank You!** Regional Vice Moderator, Barbara Utt, from Northwood, the folks from Northwood prepared their building, their grounds and their hearts with grace and hospitality.

Special thanks go to the staff, Pastors Barry Lind and Richard Russell, Administrative Assistant, Jill Noble, Music Minister, John Hakes, and youth and children ministers, John Bowling and Julie Lipp. The Northwood newsletter indicated that over 75 persons were a part of the crew that helped to prepare, set up and feed the guests that arrived with regional assembly. The meals and snack tables were beautiful, tasty and served with style. The display areas and workshop spaces were hospitable and well placed. The fair trade sale in the entry way netted over \$2,600 in sales, with \$400 of that going to FEDICE Ecuador ministries.

You will be able to view parts of the assembly on our regional YouTube channel in the next few weeks, again thanks to the tech crew from Northwood and the work of Jarid McCool, Pastor of the Burley, Idaho First Christian Church. Stay tuned.

Ione Community Church Recognized Congregation of DOC

On May 21, 2016, the Regional Assembly enthusiastically welcomed Ione Community Church as a fully recognized ministry of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). The Ione church has participated for years as an affiliating ministry with dual status in the United Church of Christ. Both the congregation and the Regional Board have affirmed the new, more permanent status for the Ione Community Church. With this final step, the congregation has received recognition by the Assembly.

Dr. Dan Armstrong, former Interim Pastor at Ione, wrote in a letter to the Assembly that “Ione Community Church is the only Protestant church in town, proudly claimed as ‘my church’ by a broad spectrum of citizens.” Stacy Shelton, a Disciples pastor serving at Ione, spoke on behalf of the church at the Assembly, along with Regional Moderator Craig Johnson.

Women's Retreats in August and October



Summer and Fall Women's Retreats are in the planning stages, so it is time to save the dates and start inviting your friends to come with you. We have two offerings — one at the Ashley Inn in Cascade, Idaho and one in Beaverton, OR at the Murray Hills Christian Church. Registration and publicity materials are on our website now www.oidisciples.org/#!/womens-fall-retreat-2014/c16t0.

Summer Retreat will be held in a lovely hotel in a small Idaho town with charm. The rooms are quaint and the patio lovely for hanging out. The three day retreat offers time for inspiration, conversation, a bit of shopping and good food. This year Erin Donnell, Associate Pastor from Red Rock Boise, will be sharing stories from her trip to Palestine/Israel last fall and applying what she learned to encourage spiritual growth for all of us.

Fall Retreat will be held in a church setting with people commuting from Portland area homes or staying in area hotels. This 24 hour shorter retreat can be attended Friday night-Saturday or Saturday only. This year the speaker is Catherine Nichols, Vice-President of Global Ministries. Cathy has traveled the world and comes back to tell us how she sees God moving in the church's global community and how that changes the church in North America and our personal spiritual lives.