

**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

- Dec. 14 Interchurch Center Board, Portland Doug
- Dec. 10 Principe de Paz, Portland Doug
- Dec. 7-9 NAPAD Board meeting Doug
- Nov. 26 Salem FCC. Chuukese Fellowship Doug
- Nov. 28 Santiam Ministers Doug
- Nov. 19 Lebanon, Installation Doug
- Nov. 18 Indianapolis, SURAN software training Cathy
- Nov. 16 Columbia Gorge Ministers Doug
- Nov. 15-17 Indianapolis, College or Regional Ministers Cathy
- Nov. 14-15 Indianapolis, Hope Partnership Meeting Cathy
- Nov. 14 Commission on Ministry Doug
- Nov. 9-11 Charlotte, National Benevolent Assn Board Cathy
- Nov. 7-9 Chicago, Week of Compassion Committee Cathy
- Nov. 4 Regional Board Meeting Doug
- Nov. 1-3 Disciples Seminary Foundation Board Doug
- Oct. 31 Salem, Santiam Ministers' Breakfast Cathy
- Oct. 30 John Day, Blue Mountain Ministers' Lunch Doug
- Oct. 29 Portland, Midway, Worship Doug
- Oct. 29 Beaverton, Murray Hills, Worship Doug
- Oct. 26 Commission on Finance Doug



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



Volume 4 Issue 8

Advent Blessings...

From
your
Regional
Church
Staff



Audre Bratcher

Liz Cronin

Bernice Rivera

Stacy Shelton

Doug Wirt & Cathy Myers Wirt

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News from our Congregations

Eugene: Advent class on Luke, taught by OSU professor

Northwood: Sent a team to work on a Texas Disciples church damaged by hurricane.

Mountain Home: Thanksgiving Day dinner at the church

Burley: Holiday Lunch and Mini-Bazaar

Corvallis: Harvest Dinner and Commitment Sunday.

Parkview: Disciples Women's Craft Fair.

Red Rock: 100 Days of Prayer as new ministry starts.

Nampa: Free community meal every Wednesday.

Lebanon: David and Shari Eggleston serving as mentor/coaches for new pastor Zane Ridings.

The View: Went to Lebanon for installation service, Nov. 19.

Murray Hills: 4 week Advent Study called *Faithful* by Adam Hamilton

Salem: All Church Fall Bible Study focused on the book of Psalms.

Principe de Paz: Come and celebrate the 40th wedding anniversary for Pastors Gustavo and Leticia, Dec. 10, at Midway Christian Church, 5:00 pm.

Save these dates!

- February 3**
Regional Board
Portland
- February 17**
Pray & Play
Eugene/Glenwood
- March 3**
Pray & Play
Medford
- March 10**
Pray & Play
Boise, Red Rock



Last year, two women rode the bus all day long in Ecuador to thank Oregon and Idaho Disciples for being their partners. In such times, it is overwhelming to know that the thanks really belong to many more back home.

Visiting around the regional church, your regional ministers have similar experiences. People thank us personally for a particular ministry or blessing, when really the thanks belongs to all who support Disciples regional ministries. These include:

- The family who can send all of their children to summer camp because of scholarships;
- A much relieved lay leader sensing the church has found the direction they needed;
- The smiling groups of pastors and lay leaders kind of surprised they had such a good experience at an Anti Racism workshop;
- New church leaders who gained knowledge, support and inspiration at a training event;
- A pastor thankful for extra support when it was most needed;
- The woman who made a new friend at the retreat;
- Someone else whose life was just blessed in a way that will remain private;
- A church in an out of the way place that feels like someone cares.

We hear the thanks, and from time to time, we pass that on to you. You don't see all the faces or hear the voices that we see and hear, but they're really thanking God for you.

Your Christmas offering goes far and wide across Idaho and Oregon, and beyond from your offering plate, or check or online gift, to people and places who could use some Good News. Churches will receive this offering on December 10 and 17, or you can give online at www.disciplesmissionfund.org. You can find posters, powerpoint slides, a video, and bulletin inserts that invite at <http://www.oidisciples.org/news-clh8s>

Christmas offering gifts will help churches find pastors, youth go to camp, new churches get started, congregations turn the corner and much more. From the hearts of many, thanks for doing that!

Cathy Doug

Regional Assembly, May 18-19, 2018 in Portland

The 2018 Regional Assembly will be May 18-19, hosted by First Christian Church in Portland. Timothy James and Sandhya Jha will be the featured speakers. Timothy James is the Associate General Minister with primary responsibility for the National Convocation. Sandhya Jha directs the Oakland Peace Center. Brenda Mikota of Portland FCC is the chair of the Regional Assembly Planning Committee.

We have arranged for a convenient and affordable housing arrangement with University Place Hotel, in downtown Portland, near Portland State University. Assembly goers will be able to reserve their weekend housing at a special event rate. We will encourage you to make your reservations early and directly with University Place Hotel. Watch for more information in future editions of your regional church newsletter.



Pray & Play Days 2018

9:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Glenwood

February 17

Medford

March 3

Red Rock Boise

March 10

LaGrande

March 17

Salem First

March 24

Sponsored by
Disciples Women



Return the registration form and payment to:

Christian Church in OR and SW ID
0245 SW Bancroft St. Suite F Portland, OR 97239

Do the Math!



New Part Time Regional Staff

The regional church has added two part time positions in 2017. The Vision Plan approved at the 2016 Regional Assembly included the concept of transitioning the regional church staff from a co-ministry model (with two Regional Ministers) to a team ministry model with part time staff persons joining the Regional Ministers and our other two part time staff.

As of November 4, Bernice Rivera started work as a Leader Development Associate. She will visit Spanish speaking ministries in the regional church, on an average of one church per weekend, about 5-6 hours per week. She will also visit other congregations helping to build relationships between congregations and with the regional church. Bernice is a member of Murray Hills Christian Church in Beaverton, Oregon and a representative to the General Board of the Disciples of Christ Church.

Stacy Shelton has also started work as Communications Associate. She will manage Constant Contact, develop online registration processes, and oversee videoconferencing by ministries in the regional church, working an average of 20 hours per month. Stacy serves as Pastor at the Medford First Christian Church. We welcome Stacy and Bernice to the regional staff and give thanks for the gifts they bring.