Mission Statement of the Regional Church

- To nurture members and congregations
- To establish and receive new congregations

Our mission is

- While working together with the whole Church to do Christ’s ministry in the world.

Save these dates!

February 7 - Portland
Regional Board meeting

February 13 - Salem
Pray and Play for Women

February 20 - Eugene
Pray and Play for Women

February 27-28 - Salem
Middle School Event

News from our Congregations

La Grande: combined Sunday morning worship on Jan. 10 with Methodist, Lutheran, Presbyterian and Episcopal congregations for Epiphany

Dallas: Founded in 1856, the Dallas FCC will reach 160 years of ministry in 2016. Praise God!

Christ Church, Portland: new church start celebrating success of their first stewardship effort

Keizer: Men’s group meets twice monthly

Junction City: active ministry with young adults

Pendleton: Hosting monthly meetings for families who have special needs

On the Way with Doug and Cathy

- Jan. 31 Red Rock, Gary Smith Retirement  Cathy/Doug
- Jan. 30 Nampa, Cuba Presentation  Cathy
- Jan. 26 Albany, Transition Committee  Cathy
- Jan. 26 Santiam Ministers’ Breakfast  Doug/Cathy
- Jan. 24 Salem, Escudo y Fortaleza  Doug
- Jan. 24 Silverton FCC Elders  Doug
- Jan. 23 Keizer, Commission on Ministry  Doug
- Jan. 20-24 Daytona Beach, FL, Women’s Ministry  Cathy
- Jan. 20 Northwood, Eugene Springfield ministers  Doug
- Jan. 17 Medford, Worship and Transition Team  Cathy
- Jan. 17 Grants Pass, Worship  Doug
- Jan. 16 Albany, Memorial Evelyn Campbell  Doug/Cathy
- Jan. 14 Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon Board  Doug
- Jan. 13 Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon Nominating  Doug
- Jan. 12 Junction City  Doug
- Jan. 11 LaGrande, Blue Mountain Area Clergy  Doug/Cathy
- Jan. 10 Portland, Lynchwood, Worship  Cathy
- Jan. 10 Portland, Midway, Worship  Doug
- Jan. 8 Bellingham, Memorial For Lillian Moir  Doug/Cathy
- Jan. 5 Regional Nominating Committee  Cathy/Doug
- Dec. 24 St. Johns Community Church Worship  Doug/Cathy

I “you think you are too small to make a difference, you haven’t spent a night with a mosquito.” -AFRICAN PROVERB

For over seven decades the Week of Compassion offering has made a difference in the lives of real people around the globe in small and large ways in times of disaster, dislocation or drought. This offering, received each February, is available year round when needed. The funds build water systems; assist people driven from home by war or nature; and help to rebuild capacity in communities after disasters.

Director of the Week of Compassion, Vy Nguyen, will be one of our speakers at the May Regional Assembly. We experienced the speed with which he responds this year in our own region. While Vy was traveling in China, he received an email from Doug Wirt about the forest fires in Grant County, Oregon. From China, he released a solidarity grant that made its way to our John Day congregation on the front lines of helping people displaced by the fire. Your regional church board also sent more funds in partnership with the Week of Compassion. Because we are mobilized and ready before these events happen, we can act quickly with compassion. In 2015 our regional church gave $80,219 to this offering and $39,237 in designated gifts for specific appeals. We hope that we can reach this level of giving again this year.

To learn more about the Week of Compassion ministry of our church and for videos, stories and information about the offering go to: www.weekofcompassion.org

Regional Assembly
May 20-21, 2016
Hosted by Northwood Christian in Springfield, Oregon
Your Vision Team is preparing to take a report to the February regional board meeting that offers a three to four year sketch for priorities that reflect the listening that the team has done over the past year. The Vision team listened to pastors, the regional board, members at locations in each of the five districts of our regional church, and to attendees of the 2014 Regional Assembly. After combining the information gathered, the emerging trends indicate a desire for more connection between congregations near to each other and technological connections to Oregon/South Idaho Disciples who live far away from each other yet share similar mission outreach or congregational ministries. In addition, the team heard a desire for some restructuring of our regional program life and a rethinking about how we staff our ministries.

At the 2016 Regional Assembly in May, Oregon/South Idaho Disciples will have an opportunity to interact with the vision team and learn more about the direction of our common ministry in 2016-2020. Our consultant for this project, Dr. Dick Hamm, will join us for the launching of this new venture. More information will be sent to congregations before the assembly to prepare for the conversation. We are grateful to each of you that took the time to add your thoughts and prayers to this time of discernment and stretching of ourselves to the next part of our ministry together as a regional church.

In hope,

Cathy

Jan Elfers New Executive Director of EMO

Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon has selected Jan Elfers as their new Executive Director. Born in Eugene, Jan earned degrees from Lewis and Clark College and Marylhurst University. She has served in several staff roles at EMO over the past thirteen years and is a member of the Episcopal Church.

Alicia Speidel, Pastor of Hood River Valley Christian and Regional Minister, Doug Wirt, are current members of the Ecumenical Ministries Episcopal Church.

Middle School Retreat hosted by FCC Salem

February 27-28, Salem First Christian Church will host the regional middle school mid-winter rally. This year the group will meet from 11:00 a.m. on Saturday for pizza and fun, and then head to the water park in Dallas, Oregon for an afternoon of fun. In the evening after dinner, the group will watch the movie Inside Out and have a keynote time with Matt Gordon, Pastor of Corvallis First Christian Church. We will finish at 10:45 a.m., following worship on Sunday morning.

Cost is $25 and covers the food and field trip. Registration, packing list, and schedule can be found on our website: www.oidisciples.org.

Fedice Ecuador Trip 2016

The FEDICE ministry of Ecuador invites Disciples from Oregon and SW Idaho to spend time with indigenous churches and communities in the Andes mountains from June 9-20. As in previous visits, the group will do some light duty work and lead Vacation Bible School at a local church in the Imbabura province, near Otavalo.

A trip to Romerillos, where our regional church has supported microloan projects, is also planned. We will also worship, eat and have fellowship with Ecuadorian Christians.

Costs will probably be a little over $2,000 per person, with about half going to airfare. Local churches in the region often raise funds and give grants to help defray the costs of people who go on the trip. If you have interest in going, please notify Doug Wirt, edwirt@aol.com or call the regional church office 503 226 7648.

To learn more about FEDICE, visit their excellent web site at: http://www.fedice.org or their Facebook page: https://www.facebook.com/fedice.ecuador/?fref=ts or YouTube video at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7RcXFOuiXEw.

Cathy’s Cuba Stories

Cathy is sharing the story of her trip to Global Ministries trip to Cuba last October at the following places and times:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>January 30</td>
<td>Nampa</td>
<td>2:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Cathy is sharing the story of her trip to Global Ministries trip to Cuba last October at the following places and times:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February 7</td>
<td>Murray Hills</td>
<td>9:00, 10:00, and 11:00 a.m.</td>
<td>Cathy is sharing the story of her trip to Global Ministries trip to Cuba last October at the following places and times:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February 7</td>
<td>The View</td>
<td>5:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Cathy is sharing the story of her trip to Global Ministries trip to Cuba last October at the following places and times:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February 21</td>
<td>Portland First</td>
<td>9:00, 10:00 a.m.</td>
<td>Cathy is sharing the story of her trip to Global Ministries trip to Cuba last October at the following places and times:</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

If you would like her to come to visit you with this story, please get in touch at cdwirt@aol.com.

Women’s Pray and Play Day 2016 Dates

Dates for the pray and play events for women are set, and the registration material is on our website. The cost has been reduced to $10, which is down $5.00 from last year. Registration covers program materials, a Bible Study to take home, and a gift.

Pray and Play events are 3 hour mini-retreats and have time for playing together and praying together as the name suggests. Our theme scripture from 1 Corinthians 13 on love will be explored, and we will be reminded that Words matter, to Hold onto what is important, to Act in love, and Take faith into the world.

Say W H A T ! ?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>January 30</td>
<td>Nampa</td>
<td>2:00 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February 7</td>
<td>Murray Hills</td>
<td>9:00, 10:00, and 11:00 a.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February 7</td>
<td>The View</td>
<td>5:00 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February 21</td>
<td>Portland First</td>
<td>9:00, 10:00 a.m.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Dates and places 9:30-12:30

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Salem</td>
<td>February 13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eugene</td>
<td>February 20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>La Grande</td>
<td>March 19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medford</td>
<td>April 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hood River</td>
<td>April 9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mountain Home</td>
<td>April 16</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>