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 Wirton Regional Ministers
Audre Bratcher, Administrative Assistant

On the Way with Doug and Cathy

- Sept. 16 Eugene, Olive Plaza Board Meeting Doug
- Sept. 16 Lebanon, Board Meeting Doug
- Sept. 17 EMO Board Meeting, Chair Doug
- Sept. 17 Regional Garden Bean Picking Cathy
- Sept. 17 Caddisfly Resort, Eugene Ministers Lunch Cathy
- Sept 19-20 Portland First, Stewardship Workshop Cathy/Doug
- Sept. 21 Homedale, Preaching Doug/Cathy
- Sept. 21 Nampa, Stewardship Workshop Cathy/Doug
- Sept. 22 Ione Board Meeting Doug
- Sept. 22 Hood River, Cte Meeting Cathy
- Sept. 23 Regional Executive Cte. Cathy/Doug
- Sept. 24 Lebanon, Meeting Doug
- Sept. 25 Regional Vision Team Cathy
- Sept. 25 Aloha, Meeting Doug
- Sept. 27 Salem Elders Retreat Cathy
- Sept. 28 Pendleton, Preaching Doug
- Sept. 28 LaGrande, Pastor Farewell Doug
- Sept. 28 Lynchwood, Worship, Congregation Mtg. Cathy
- Sept. 28 The View, Worship Cathy

Save these dates!

**Oregon & southwest Idaho**

**October 2014**

**Women’s Retreat** What do you do when you find yourself “Up the River* in your life with situations you find hard to bear alone? You lean into your sisters, and you lean into prayer. This fall, the Western Regional Women’s Circle will explore how we live into life’s changes together.

Our keynote speaker is Susan McNeely, an Indiana Disciple, who, after retirement from the Eli Lilly Company, went to teach English with Global Ministries in the Democratic Republic of Congo. Besides time with Susan, we will be celebrating our Regional Community Garden harvest with a fun Friday evening bean shelling party and games after sharing a baked potato bar. The usual free trade book sale will be ready for you, an Italian Soda bar, a book sale as well as workshops, worship and times to hang out and see long time friends and meet new ones. We will once again be collecting food for the Murray Hills Food Pantry — this year we are asking people to bring canned and dried beans — a great source of protein and easy to cook.

Women are invited to come for Friday and Saturday or one day only. Newcomers receive discounted prices, and if you bring a group, there are even more savings. Participants stay in area hotels, and a list of close by options are on our web page at www.oidisciples.org. Registration materials can also be found at the same link.

**Regional Assembly May 20-21, 2016** Hosted by Northwood Christian Church in Springfield, Oregon

**Come Hear our FEDICE Volunteers, October 25, at Eugene FCC**

Two young women from Oregon, Bethany Waggoner and Kelsey Hertel, have given generously of their time and talents with the FEDICE programs in Ecuador. Kelsey worked at the child care center in Romerillos, in the town where our regional project is located. Bethany has worked with the FEDICE office in Quito and is now based in Otavalo, working with projects in the community. Both will speak and share photos on Oct. 25 at Eugene FCC, 1166 Oak Street, from 3-5 pm. We will have handmade items from Ecuador for raffle and auction and dessert will be served.

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**October 5** Parkview, Boise Installation of Pastor Gene Hill

**October 17-18** Beaverton West Side Women’s Retreat Hosted by Murray Hills Christian (see front page)

**November 1** Portland Regional Board Meeting

**May 20-21, 2016** Northwood Regional Assembly

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**Trees of Righteousness: Back to school drive gave supplies to 52 children/youth and gave 14 free haircuts.**

**John Day: All church camp out**

**Eugene FCC: Congo dinner raising $1300 for hospital at Wena, a project of the Congo Initiative of Global Ministries.**

**Salem FCC: Zane Ridings has started classes at Brite Divinity School**

**Peniel Hillsboro: Held spiritual retreat in October**

**Dallas: Family Game Night**

**Allison Park: Exceeded goal for parking lot repair fund**

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Please pray for your Vision Team and answer their invitations for conversation.

At the September meeting the discussion centered on:

- Report from Dick about his conversations with ten pastors in the region;
- A list of observations about youth/young adult regional participation;
- Decision to invite the prayer triads formed at Regional Assembly and leaders in congregations to enter a time of reflection using the book Whole: A Call to Unity in our Fragmented World by Sharon Watkins;
- Conversation about the beginning of the new Regional Youth Council season with youth from both Oregon and Idaho together;
- A process for congregations to begin working in pairs and triads in prayer and mission.
- Setting dates in May to host three locations for gatherings to check in about mid course reflections on our vision process.

Please pray for your Vision Team and answer their invitations for conversation.

My Turn

Your Vision Team has been at work!
Following the beginning of our visioning process at the Hood River Regional Assembly in May, the vision team has met twice by telephone and has had sub groups working on several aspects of the process with our Coach/Consultant, Dick Hamm.

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In hope, Cathy

Camp Dates 2015 are on our Website
The 2015 dates for camps at Suttle Lake and Camp Cascade can be found on the youth link of our web site: www.oidisciples.org. We had a great summer experience at camp, and we are already gearing up to do it again in 2015!!! Stay tuned.

Stewardship Event Follow Up
Approximately 110 Oregon, Idaho and Washington Disciples attended two stewardship events in September at FCC Portland and FCC Nampa. Thank you to these host congregations for their great welcome and hospitality.

Bruce Barkhauer, of the Office of Faith and Giving, and Jerry Lang of Christian Church Foundation, led these sessions on “Creating a Culture of Generosity.” We heard from them that these events were among the best attended that they have led. In Portland, about 50 people from 14 congregations came on September 19 and 20. On September 21, 61 people came from 9 congregations came to Nampa, meaning that 23 congregations in all participated.

If you missed these events, you can plan to attend a similar seminar in Spokane, April 17-18, 2105 at Country Homes Christian Church.

New Staff for Congregations and Week of Compassion
Three congregations have voted to call new leadership during the past month, and the new Week of Compassion Director has begun his ministry!

- **Rev. Ray Smith** has been called to be Pastor of the LaGrande First Christian Church, to begin in November. Ray’s most recent call was as Pastor in Richland, Washington. Ray holds degrees from Northwest Christian University and Phillips Seminary.
- **Rev. Andrew Shepherd** has been called to be Pastor of Lynchwood Christian Church in Portland, to begin in November. Andrew recently completed a Ministerial Residency at Foothills Christian Church in Phoenix, Arizona following his graduation from Vanderbilt Divinity School and his ordination into ministry.
- **Rev. Vy Nguyen** has been begun his work as the Director for Week of Compassion. Vy served for five years as Director for the SW Office of Church World Service in Oakland, California. As a former refugee who came to the United States through the Church of the East, Vy learned about the work of Church World Service. Vy has witnessed first hand the vital work of these ministries. He is a graduate of Texas Christian University and University of Chicago Divinity School.

News from Kim and Erik Free in Mozambique
Kim and Erik have been on the move attending a women’s conference in Chimoio Bairro and working to prepare a farm project in Gogoi for increased development. You can read about their work on their blog posts at: http://thefreesinmoz.wordpress.com/.

Community Garden Harvest Abundant
The beans are all harvested!!

THANK YOU to the crew from Northwood Christian and to Thomas Curtis, Susan Latham and Patty Weller for bringing in the beans, drying them and preparing them to be shelled and donated. HUGE thanks to Lisa Landers for donating her front yard for this project and for hours and hours of tending the garden. Folks from Eugene FCC, Springfield FCC, Northwood, Junction City, The View and Salem have shelled beans.

Beans have been delivered to Boise Red Rock for their community meal, Salem for their culinary arts program teaching cooking skills to young adults for employment preparation, as well as to The View and Eugene First to be sold to benefit local feeding programs and our global partner project through Week of Compassion. In addition, Northwood will distribute beans through their food pantry. The beans will continue to be distributed in the next few weeks to DOC congregations involved in feeding their neighbors.

The final shelling party will take place at the fall women’s retreat, and these beans will be donated to the Murray Hills food box program that donates food to local migrant worker housing. Each of the 13 beds produced approximately 8 quarts of Flambo and Tiger’s Eye beans. Thanks to the Disciples Women Endowment Fund and Week of Compassion for the “seed” money for this venture.