News from our Congregations


Trees of Righteousness/ The View/Lynchwood/Salem: Men’s meeting on Pray and Play day, Feb. 13 in Salem.

Burley: Growing Ministry with Parents and Children

Nampa: Thank you for hosting district Cuba presentation!

Murray Hills: Ecumenical pulpit exchange throughout Lent.


Trees of Righteousness: 9th Anniversary, April 10.

Eugene FCC: Celebrating 150th Anniversary, April 9-10

Dallas: Elders’ Retreat prayed throughout the building for each FCC ministry

Grants Pass: Learning about the five developmental tasks of interim ministry, led by Interim Pastor Wayne Bell.

Pendleton: Member Kathryn Youngman on Ellen Show.

Portland FCC: Cuba program by Cathy Myers Wirt for Week of Compassion.

Hood River: Simplicity Sale to raise funds for summer camp.

Salem: Ministry Fair focusing on different ministries over four different Sundays.

The View: Cuba presentation with Cathy Myers Wirt

Save these dates!

March 19 | LaGrande
Women’s Pray and Play Day

April 9 | Woodstock
Women’s Pray and Play Day

April 9 | Hood River
Women’s Pray and Play Day

April 16 | Mountain Home
Women’s Pray and Play Day

May 20-21 | Springfield
Regional Assembly

June 4 | Portland
Regional Board Meeting

June 18 | Boise
God Rocks! Camp Fundraiser

June 20 | Ecuador
Global Mission Trip

August 19-21 | Cascade
Women’s Retreat

October 14-15 | Beaverton
Women’s Retreat

Mission Statement of the Regional Church

- 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

- Feb. 21 Portland, Principe de Paz, Worship, Preaching Doug
- Feb. 21 Vancouver, Trees of Righteousness, Preaching Doug
- Feb. 21 Beaverton, Murray Hills Worship Doug
- Feb. 21 Portland, First, Preaching, & Cuba Forum Cathy
- Feb. 20 Eugene, Pray and Play for Women Doug/Cathy
- Feb. 18 Beaverton, New Church Team Doug
- Feb. 18 Beaverton FEDICE Ecuador trip mtg. Doug
- Feb. 18 College of Regional Ministers Exec. Comm. Cathy
- Feb. 18 National Benevolent Assn. Board Meeting Cathy
- Feb. 17 Junction City, Eugene Area Ministers Cathy
- Feb. 17 Northwood, Regional Assembly Planning Cathy
- Feb. 14 Keizer Christian, Preaching, Faithful Planning Cathy
- Feb. 14 Boise, Red Rock, Preaching Doug
- Feb. 13 Salem, Pray and Play for Women Cathy
- Feb. 13 Salem, Disciples Men Gathering Doug
- Feb. 11 National Benevolent Assn, Program Comm. Cathy
- Feb. 11 Bishops and Executives Lunch Doug
- Feb. 11 Columbia Gorge Clergy Conversation Cathy/Doug
- Feb. 7 Hillsboro, The View, Cuba Presentation Cathy
- Feb. 7 Beaverton, Murray Hills, Preaching Cathy
- Feb. 7 Boise, Red Rock, Preaching Doug

Regional Assembly
May 20-21
Northwood Christian
Springfield

Registration will open for the Regional Assembly the first week of March. Materials will be posted on the regional website and sent to congregations with details. Friday afternoon from 1:30-4:00 Rev. Dr. Dick Hamm will lead us in a pre-assembly session to launch our new regional future story vision. This is a product of two years of consultation with Dr. Hamm and the work of our regional vision team. See the article on page two of this newsletter.

Friday evening through Saturday afternoon, the assembly will gather under the theme: Wind Across the Water, examining the ways the Holy Spirit blows through our individual lives and the lives of our congregations. Friday through Saturday displays from ministries throughout the whole church will share information, and Saturday’s program includes a series of workshops on topics reflecting the priorities of our future story.

Friday evening we will hear from Rev. Vy Nguyen, Director of the Week of Compassion ministry of our church. Saturday morning we will launch a new project partnership with FEDICE of Ecuador with Blanca Puma, Executive Director of FEDICE, bringing us a word of hope.

Saturday lunch is FREE and will be in five locations in the building with participants getting better acquainted with Disciples from their own districts. Saturday afternoon will be a closing communion service with a joint assembly choir. AND the price is reduced from our last assembly! Thank you to Northwood Christian in Springfield for hosting us.

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church establishment, higher education, the pension fund, and much more. For a full list of general church ministries, see the newly designed website at www.disciples.org.

During the 2016 Easter season, Pacific Islands Family Church of Portland will host an annual Easter Rally. In the past two Easter seasons, this Portland-based ministry has met with other Chuukese Christians in Hawaii and Texas. This year, the Portland congregation will have a turn to host Chuukese Christians visiting from several other states. The Rally begins on Thursday, March 24 (Maundy Thursday) and concludes on Easter Sunday, March 27.

The involvement of Pacific Islands congregations give a good example of how Disciples of Christ general church ministries support the witness of local churches. For example, our Hope Partnership ministry in Indianapolis introduced local Chuukese leaders to the Oregon-Southwest Idaho region. The North American Pacific Asian Disciples have offered a pastoral support and welcome for Chuukese Christians. Disciples Church Extension Fund provided a building loan several years ago to Midway Christian Church which now hosts the Pacific Islands Church. Other Disciples ministries can offer leadership training. This is only one example of how this year’s Easter offering can build up the witness and mission of new and established churches across all of North America and beyond. Thank you for your support of the Easter Offering this spring.

Regional Church Vision Team Update

The regional church vision plan began at the 2014 Regional Assembly, moved on through the district meetings and the Regional Board in 2015, and will now come to this year’s Regional Assembly hosted by Northwood Christian Church in Springfield. Dick Hamm, our consultant and our former General Minister and President, will attend the 2016 Regional Assembly to help with presentation of the future story vision. Come to the pre-session on Friday afternoon, May 20 at 1:30–4:00 p.m.

More information about this pre-assembly soon will be posted on our website and sent to our congregations with regional assembly registration materials.

Camp Publicity Materials on Line

Church camp posters are now on line at: www.oidisciples.org — found on the pull down menu labeled “youth”.

Registration materials, brochures, and packing lists to be posted soon. Stay tuned.

Fedice Ecuador Trip 2016

Are you ready for a mountain top experience? Oregon-SW Idaho Disciples will go to Ecuador from June 9-20, 2016. After several great mission trips in years past, this one may be the one that goes with the largest number of congregations represented. It is not too late to get signed up. The reservation list is continuing to grow!

Our beloved friends and mission partners in the FEDICE ministry will lead the trip. Locations include the world famous artisan market at Otavalo, the Equator, and two indigenous Christian communities where FEDICE and Oregon-Idaho Disciples partner with local churches. We will worship, eat, learn and serve with Ecuadorian Christians, led by FEDICE Executive Director Blanca Puma.

Costs per person will be a little over $2000. Local churches, friends and family often give their support to make it possible for more people to go. If you are interested, please contact Audre Bratcher at the regional church office, or Bernice Cintron of Murray Hills Christian Church, bercentro@comcast.net.

Red Rock, Boise Calls Interim Minister

Red Rock Christian Church has called Rev. Rene’ Jensen as their new Interim Pastor, effective on March 1, 2016. She follows Rev. Gary Smith, who served at Red Rock for 35 years, ending up with a great celebration on January 31. Rev. Jensen is a graduate of Christian Theological Seminary in Indianapolis, with thirty years of experience in Disciples congregational ministries. She served First Christian Church in Omaha, Nebraska for eighteen years and recently completed a co-interim ministry with her husband Rick at Coolwater Christian Church in Scottsdale, AZ. We welcome Rene’ to the Oregon-SW Idaho region!

Women’s Pray and Play Day 2016 Dates

Pray and Play is now in full swing for this year. The cost has been reduced to $10, which is down $5.00 from last year. Registration covers program materials, a magazine 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. Registration materials also on website.

Two events have happened already in Salem and Eugene, with 87 women participating so far. You can see pictures on our website and on our Facebook Page. Thanks go to First Christian Salem and First Christian Eugene for excellent hospitality.

An offering is received at the event split equally between Disciples Mission Fund and our newest project with FEDICE Ecuador in Romerillos. So far the offering has totaled $832. The women have also been contributing blessings box offering (over $187 so far) and spinning a “wheel of blessing” to remember our many blessings — again, check out the pictures! They also have contributed books to Lynchwood School and purchased notebooks with covers made by our sisters in Mozambique. The most fun is simply playing and praying together with women from multiple congregations. Come join the fun!

Dates and places yet to be...

LaGrande, March 19    Medford, April 2    Hood River, April 9    Mountain Home, April 16