**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

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**On the Way with Doug and Cathy**

- Sept 21 Lynchwood, Women’s Group Speaker  Cathy
- Sept. 18 Snake River District Pastors’ Lunch  Cathy
- Sept. 17 Portland First, Worship  Doug
- Sept. 17 Nampa, Preaching  Cathy
- Sept. 14 Anti-Racism Trainers Meeting  Doug
- Sept. 14 Reconciliation Steering Committee  Doug
- Sept. 14 Interchurch Center Board  Doug
- Sept. 7-11 Ohio Women’s Retreat, Keynoter  Cathy
- Sept. 3 Beaverton, Murray Hills, Worship  Doug
- Sept. 3 Portland First, Preaching  Cathy
- August 27 Clackamas, Emily Lang Memorial  Doug
- August 27 Silverton, Preaching  Cathy
- August 26 Salem First, Zane Ridings, Ordination  Cath/Doug
- August 24 Portsmouth Union, Church Extension Visit  Doug
- August 23 McMinnville, Church Extension Visit  Doug
- August 20 Portland, Christ Church, Worship  Doug
- August 20 Beaverton, Murray Hills, Worship  Cathy
- August 20 Portland First, Worship  Doug

**Save these dates!**

- **September 22**  Springfield, Oregon
  - Anti-Racism Training
- **September 23**  Medford First Christian
  - Installation Service for Pastor Stacy Shelton
- **October 13-14**  Women’s Retreat
  - Beaverton, Oregon
  - Katy Valentine, Keynoter
- **October 21**  Boise, Idaho
  - Anti-Racism Training
- **November 4**  Regional Board Portland

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**Reconciliation Offering**

In the fall, Disciples receive a special offering for Reconciliation Ministries. Since 1968, this Disciples ministry has spoken and acted in response to the love of Jesus Christ amidst racial divisions and the destruction presence of racism in North America.

The Reconciliation offering, received in September and October each year, gives support to local, regional and general Disciples efforts in support of racial equity and justice. Receipts from the offering are shared equally between regional and general church ministries, both of which in turn give grants to local ministries.

Recently, Reconciliation Ministry has gathered youth of different racial identities to talk about how racial attitudes have affected their lives. The discussion shows that racism still has deep and destructive effects.

Anti Racism Pro Reconciliation trainings are a major part of the Reconciliation Ministry. These events invite Disciples to become a positive force for change in times and places open and more hidden forms of white supremacy continue to do great harm. These trainings help move Disciples to think about what we can do ourselves to bring about a better world and a more unified and effective church.

You may give to the Reconciliation offering through your local or regional church or online at [http://reconciliationministry.org/offering](http://reconciliationministry.org/offering).

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**Regional Assembly**

May 18-19, 2018
Portland FCC
Rev. Sandhya Jha & Dr. Timothy James

**Upcoming Dates to Note**

- September
  - Dr. Timothy James
  - Rev. Sandhya Jha

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- **Medford**
  - Pastoral Installation
- **Regional Board**
  - Portland
  - Installation

www.oidisciples.org  0245 SW Bancroft Suite F, Portland 97239
Disciples often hear that our Week of Compassion offerings reach around the world and throughout the year. The end of summer 2017 has shown the need for us to prepare in advance and respond to immediate needs as well for disaster response. The destruction of Hurricane Harvey, Hurricane Irma and extensive fires in the mountain west add has delivered incredible damage to the U.S. and Caribbean peoples in a short amount of time.

Our new General Minister and President Terri Hord Owens and Week of Compassion Director Vy Nguyen recently sent a joint letter to Disciples about the urgent need for disaster response.

They noted the large number of people displaced by Hurricane Harvey, including 100 Disciple related families along with 15 Disciples congregations that have had water damage. “Yet,” they added, “we are also coming together, in prayer and generosity. That is where hope lies. God is in our coming together, as Church, to respond when our family is in need.”

Giving for disaster relief through Week of Compassion provides a proven trusted response with a low percentage taken out for overhead. Our Week of Compassion ministry says, “we rely on your compassion, your gifts and your commitment to help change lives for the better. We do so in the name of Jesus Christ and on behalf of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ).”

We also work with a great many partners here in North America and worldwide.

You can give designated or undesignated gifts to Week of Compassion through your local church or at www.weekofcompassion.org.

Thank you,
Doug

Anti Racism Trainings This Fall

Christian Church in Oregon Southwest Idaho will offer two Anti Racism Pro Reconciliation trainings this fall. These events will be similar to the workshop offered in Portland in November 2016. The regional Commission on Ministry has included this as a requirement for all of our active ordained and commissioned ministers with standing in the region. Others from churches in the region are also welcome to attend.

The two events will be held in Springfield, Oregon and Boise, Idaho:

Friday, September 22, 10 am—4 pm, Springfield
Northwood Christian Church, 2425 Harvest Lane

Saturday, October 21, 10 am—4 pm, Boise
Red Rock Christian Church, 1124 S Roosevelt St,
A $10 registration fee will be requested to go to the cost of the lunch and materials.

See the cover of this newsletter for more information about the Reconciliation Ministry of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ).

Caribbean Initiative World Communion Sunday Resources

During 2017-18 North American Disciples are focused on our relationship with the ministry partners in Caribbean nations. A wide variety of materials are available on the www.globalministries.org website to support this initiative including materials for World Communion Sunday. The site has a recipe for two kinds of Caribbean breads, litanies for worship, and a Bible reflection on yeast. These resources struck a special chord with me, as I spent World Communion Sunday 2015 in Cuba with the man pictured in the posting of the resource. I hope you will check them out at….

https://d3n8a8pro7vhmx.cloudfront.net/globalministries/pages/1217/attachments/original/150350207/WCS_2017.pdf?1503502072

Cathy

Time to Register for Western Districts Women’s Retreat

This year’s speaker for the October 13-14 retreat is Rev. Dr. Katy Valentine, staff in Northern California/Nevada region and a local pastor. Katy plays harp and is bringing her harp to enhance her keynote times.

Our web page will continue to add more information as the retreat time approaches. Our theme is: The Melody of Freedom.

Our annual book read is, “Before we were Free.” Copies of the book can be found at libraries, used on line, or purchased from the regional church office for $5.00 in either English or Spanish.