



Northwest Passage

Northwest Regional Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

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May 2009

What an exciting day Saturday was for the Northwest Regional Christian Church!

More than 200 people from about 38 congregations attended the called Regional Assembly.

Good News Highlights:

Rev. Sandy Messick Elected as Regional Minister -- To Take Office June 1st

On Saturday May 16th at a specially called Regional Assembly, with more than 200 people in attendance, The Rev. Sandy Messick was affirmed as the Regional Minister and President Elect of the NWRCC. Sandy begins her duties on June 1st, 2009. The Regional Board will be setting a date for her installation to this pastoral office for the fall of this year. Many of you know Sandy and are aware that she brings a wealth of experience to this call. **Please note: Rev. Messick does not begin her work with us until June 1st. Until then please continue to contact Rev. Rebecca Hale for regional and pastoral questions and concerns.** For more information about Rev. Messick go to www.disciplesnw.org/messick.html

In addition to affirming this pastoral call, the region said goodbye to Transitional Interim Regional Minister, Rebecca Hale. Rebecca will complete her tenure in the region on May 31st. Rebecca will be the Acting Regional Minister of the Christian Church in Tennessee through August of 2009.

NWRCC Affirms Five-Year Mission Plan and Transition Team Announced

The RISE regional transformation process bore fruit on Saturday with the adoption of a five year Mission Plan. You can view the full plan at www.disciplesnw.org and you are encouraged to prayerfully consider how you would like to be involved in bringing this plan to life. If you would like to serve on a future ministry team, please contact the regional office to indicate your interest. Attendees filed out cards of commitment and indicated areas of mission to which they feel called.

The Transition Team that will now help us live with full potential into the Mission Plan has been appointed: Justin Umbright, Jo Gustafson, Wahhab Baldwin, Miguel Rivera, Connie Robey, Bill Robey, Edie Rice-Sauer, Cheryln Williams.

Many thanks to the faithful and hardworking RISE Team, Edie Rice-Sauer (Chair), Cheryln Williams (Moderator), Wes Strait, Dawn Marie Turner, Gary Shoemaker, and Sandy Messick for their contributions to our regional life these past three years. The RISE team is now retired!



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Offering Benefiting New Church Ministry in the NWRCC

More than \$1600 was collected in the day's offering and will be used to directly support new church ministry in the NWRCC. Thank you for your generosity. Please continue your support of our new congregations through generous giving to this week's Pentecost offering.



Expanding the Table

PENTECOST OFFERING 2009



Samoan Congregational Christian Church Chartered

In a delightful celebration the Samoan Congregational Christian Church was affirmed as a fully chartered congregation of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). The congregation has been working towards this milestone since 2001 and brings a rich experience and heritage to the NWRCC. Moderator and Cheryln Williams and Regional Minister Rebecca Hale attended a celebration with the congregation on Sunday May 17th where the historic day was celebrated with communion, prayers of blessings and a feast!

NWRCC Becomes Global Mission Region

The NWRCC officially became a Global Mission Region committing ourselves to increased intentionality in developing relationships with our global partners. We will through prayer, giving, advocacy, and attention seek to strengthen our global understanding and relationships. It is hoped that the regional church can move towards having a meaningful partnership with one area of the globe where global ministries is active and then allow that relationship to take root in our local congregations. For more information about what being a GMR means, please go to: www.disciplesnw.org

Mission Statement of the NWRCC

Called by God and sent by the Living Christ, we the Northwest Regional Christian Church intentionally engage with one another rejoicing in our diversity and shared gifts, deepening our spiritual life, building true community, acting courageously in ministry and mission, and sharing God's good news with a fresh voice and a new song. We seek to "do justice, love kindness and walk humbly with our God." (Micah 6:8)