



Northwest Passage

Northwest Regional Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

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September 2009

REFLECTIONS ON THE JOURNEY...

Rev. Sandy Messick

(A continuing series of articles reflecting on the Objectives outlined in our Regional Ministry Plan)

Priorities Named for the Coming Year

At a recent meeting of the Transition Team and Executive Committee, we identified and adopted six Mission Plan priorities to address in the coming year. These six are:

- Mission and Sending including Global Missions as an overarching regional focus
- Our commitment to be a Pro-Reconciliation Region and to embrace that commitment in all areas of our regional activity and planning,
- Youth Ministries (including the Camping Program and Regional Youth Commission),
- New Church ministries and how better to partner with our new congregations and pastors,
- Stewardship as a Spiritual Practice for congregations and Region,
- Our physical office needs in light of our mission.

Each of these priorities are named and described in our Mission Plan. They were identified as focus areas for the coming year because of their urgency in needing to be addressed (particularly Youth Ministries, stewardship, New Church, and office space) or because of the ways they help focus all of our thinking and ministry in ways that enable us to live out our vision and mission (particularly Mission and Sending and Pro-Reconciliation).

The Transition Team, Regional Board, and a

yet to be formed Interim Mission Council will oversee the teams charged with living out these priorities. People interested in these areas will be invited to offer input, participate on planning teams, and help carry out these initiatives. Watch for more information as we move forward into this year and be prepared to step forward and volunteer in the area that calls forth your passion.

Our next steps are to identify the roles and tasks for each particular area and begin inviting interested people to participate. Please keep this work in your prayers as we seek to be faithful to the Vision God has provided.

Blessings, Sandy



You are cordially invited...

You are cordially invited to the installation of Rev. Sandra Morgan Messick as Regional Minister and President of the Northwest Regional Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) to be held at First Christian Church, 602 N. Orchard St., Tacoma, WA 98406 on Saturday, October 17, 2009 at 2:00 pm. A reception will follow the service.

Clergy are invited to robe and wear red stoles.

Each congregation is invited to send a representative to participate in the laying on of hands. If you cannot send a representative, you are invited to send a photo of your congregation or church building and a short written word of welcome to be displayed during the reception.



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CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to Hailee Longoria of First Christian Church, Coeur d'Alene, ID who has been named to the General Youth Commission representing the NW Region.

FOR THE CALENDAR:

Common Table Gathering and Installation Service, Oct. 17, 2009 (see invitation)

Regional Assembly, May 21-23, 2010, North Hill Christian Church, Spokane, WA

RECONCILIATION OFFERING TO BE RECEIVED SEPT. 27 AND OCT. 4, 2009

The theme for this year's offering is "Many Members, One Table" and points to the diversity of our community as we celebrate the unity that we have in Christ. This annual offering focuses on our General and Regional Church priority to be a pro-reconciling/anti-racism community. The offering is divided between General Church and Regional Church ministries. The General Church has used Reconciliation funds to provide for anti-racism training within General Ministries, Higher Education and Regions.

Half of the offering received from churches in our Region is returned to the Northwest for ministries here. In recent years, your Reconciliation offerings have been used to support DHM Interns at Yakama Christian Mission, provide translator services to the Regional Minister Search Committee so that the committee could include representatives from our non-English speaking congregations, and helped cover travel costs so our Samoan congregation could participate in General Assembly.

Additional resources for the Reconciliation Offering can be found online at

www.reconciliationministry.org/offerings/

Thank you for your ongoing support of this important offering.



Mission Week at Yakama Christian Mission

Sponsored by Disciples Home Missions September 24-October 3, 2009

Come for a day, or the entire ten days!

Scope of work to be completed: #1 – Friendship House: caulk and paint new siding; #2 – Parsonage: tear off existing roof, clean out and replace attic insulation, put on new roof, gut the inside; #3 – Log Church: several repair projects, including log replacement and re-chinking.

All volunteers for this project will be fed and housed at the Yakama Christian Mission.

For more details, costs and registration visit:

<http://www.disciplesnw.org/docs/2009FallYakamaMissionVolunteerWeekInfoReg.pdf>

NWRCC Mission Statement

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)