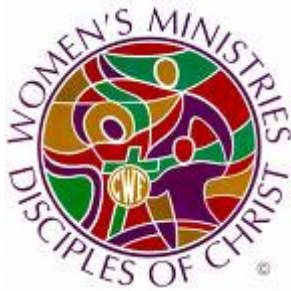


Regional Women's Circle Connection



REGIONAL WOMEN'S MINISTRY

UPCOMING EVENTS — SAVE THE DATES!!

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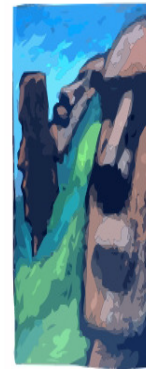
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PRAY AND PLAY DAYS

Women's events are taking place throughout the Region. This year's theme is ***Surviving Together on Easter Island!*** Get ready for a morning of fabulous fun, laughter, friendship and spiritual renewal. You don't want to miss it!

Salem First Christian Church—March 12
 Eugene First Christian Church—March 19
 Portland First Christian Church—March 26
 Albany First Christian Church—April 9
 Medford First Christian Church—April 30
 Pendleton First Christian Church—June 18

2011 Pray and Play Day



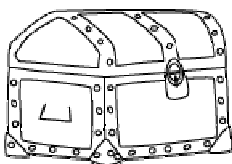
*Surviving Together
 on Easter Island*

WOMEN'S RETREAT

In the fall, the Women's Circle sponsors an overnight retreat. It will be in Beaverton at the Murray Hills Christian Church — **October 7-8** this year. Nancy Johnson, Pastor of the Puyallup, Washington First Christian Church will be our speaker on the theme: ***From Trashed to Treasured.*** Watch the Oregon Region website www.oregondisciples.org for details.



From Trash to Treasure



2011 General Assembly in Nashville

The 2011 General Assembly of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) is being held July 9-13 in Nashville, Tennessee. The theme is "Tell It!"



WOMEN AND THE CALL TO MINISTRY PASSING ON THE TORCH

“If I can help even one family not have to repeat my growing up years, it is all worth it”.
Rev Phillips

Meet The Reverend Myrna Phillips

When I asked Myrna how she heard call to Ministry she explained a myriad of factors cumulating in a strong commitment to ministry. Myrna was raised in a family that did not attend church. “Home was miserable with lots of screaming, hitting and inappropriate touching.”

Everyday she played with a little neighbor boy named Bobby, whose family asked if she wanted to go to Sunday School and Church with them at the Central Christian Church. She attended with them “basically every Sunday until I left home at 18”. During those years Myrna was befriended by a woman, Bonnie Alt, who “took me ‘under wing’”. Besides fostering eight special needs boys, Bonnie was the Christian Ed (volunteer), directed Vacation Bible School and all the camps. Myrna became her assistant and the Church “became my life”.

“My parents basically left me alone if I was doing Church activities. So if I wasn't at school I was at church. Church was my sanctuary. I was sort of the misfit kid, who everyone took care of...rides, over-nite for sleepovers, regional assemblies, etc. If anyone was going anywhere I was invited to go”.

“In High School we had the traditional ‘night of silence’ at camp to see who God was calling into ministry, I think I was one of eight or ten that went forward the next morning to declare an intent for ministry.”

Myrna had no funds to attend college. “Bonnie Alt wrote letters for me and I got partial scholarship to Northwest Christian College. I began at NCC September of 1965, met Noel the first day of orientation”.

Myrna went on to earn a Bachelors degree from Northwest Christian University and a Master's degree in Counseling from Lewis and Clark Graduate School. She was ordained in 1980 and is a Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist. She is also an Elder at Salem First Christian Church.

Myrna and her husband, Rev. Dr. Noel Phillips, have been married for 44 years and have two grown children. Myrna has also served in the role of pastor's wife. Noel is currently serving as a Chaplain at the Salem Hospital.

Myrna has worked for Salem Pastoral Counseling Center for 31 years where she has served in the roles of founder, Director and Co-director. She specializes in working with people who are survivors of “abuse, rape, incest, trauma situations”. This is a way to pay it forward or as Myrna puts it “to pass on the torch women like Bonnie Alt and Ida Smith have given me. They, and others, literally saved my life and I need to pass on their commitment. If I can help even one family not have to repeat my growing up years, it is all worth it”.

Myrna recently organized a seminar, “Keeping our Children Safe: *The Church and Mandatory Reporting*”. District Attorney Courtland Geyer presented on mandatory reporting laws; attorney Don McCann presented on civil liabilities; our own Regional Minister Doug Wirt spoke on Ministerial and profession ethics; and Myrna presented on creating church safety plans for our children. If you have questions or would like information on how to optimize your church's safety plan for children, you can contact Myrna at spcc.phillips@gmail.com or 503-370-8050 x 4.

One person made a difference in Myrna's life. You can be that one person in a child's life...and it all started with an invitation to attend Church. Thanks Myrna, for paying it forward.

Written by editor, Julie Hanna



MISSIONS

Yakama

In February a fire blew through the town of White Swan destroying 20 homes. Your prayers, volunteer work and financial support are needed. If you would like to contribute you can designate to "White Swan Fire-Long-term Recovery Effort." If you are a member of a community who wants to make a *hands on* difference, consider organizing a work trip to White Swan. Beginning with Spring Break until the end of autumn help is needed. The work you do will matter.



*Yakama
Christian
Mission*

FEDICE

Oregon Disciples have now given **\$33,255.27** to the special Ecuador mission fund! This brings it to **85.2%** of the total goal of **\$39,000**. **\$5,744.73** remains to be raised. The special Ecuador fund supports ministries of our global mission partner, FEDICE, the Educational Foundation for Integrated Training, Development and Education. This includes a chicken project with women in San Francisco, Ecuador, a guinea pig project in Guanando parish, a community which had been covered with volcanic ash, and salary support for the Executive Director, Blanca Puma, who oversees these projects and many more. She will be visiting the Oregon Region in May.

Thank you to all who have given generously and to those working even now to put us over the top!



Woman-to-Woman Worldwide

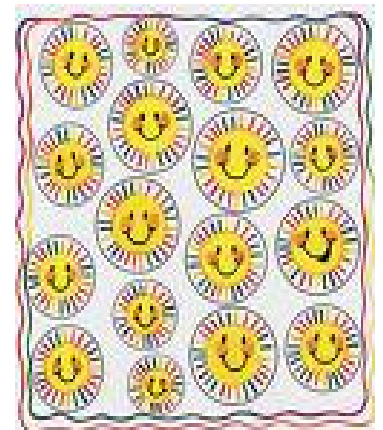
Woman-to-Woman Worldwide (WWW) is an opportunity to personalize missions. WWW is sponsored by the International Disciples Women's Ministries and administered through the Office of Disciples Women, a ministry of Disciples Home Missions, in conjunction with the Division of Overseas Ministries. These international, ecumenical and personal experiences encourage faithful women to see the world through new eyes and bring that perspective back to their congregation and community. This year WWW will be traveling to the Congo, next year China.

You can find more information at www.discipleshomemissions.org/Women

QUOTATION OF THE MONTH

The happiest of people don't necessarily have the best of everything;
they just make the most of everything that comes along their way.

~Author Unknown



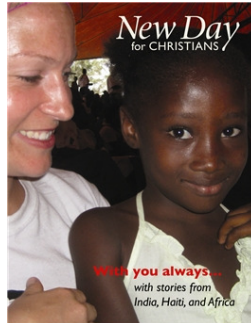
**REGIONAL WOMEN'S
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WE'RE ON THE WEB!
WWW.OREGONDISCIPLES.ORG

**Women's Regional Ministry Circle
Christian Church in Oregon**



New Day Magazine "WITH YOU ALWAYS" with stories from India, Haiti and Africa. Edited by our own Cathy Myers Wirt. *New Day* is our denomination's global mission magazine.

New Day is available at Spring Pray & Play Days, through the Regional Office, or through the Christian Board of Publication.

There is a Leader's Guide available. Many women's groups, throughout the region, use this magazine as a guide for their meetings. You'll read stories of men and women whose faith has grown when they heard the voice of God in their lives through their brothers and sisters, scripture and in global mission partnerships. Also available in Spanish.

Save the Dates!

Pray & Play Days-March 12, 19 & 26; April 9 & 30; June 18

see front page for locations

Regional Idea Sharing Mission Event—May 21

Women's Fall Retreat-October 7-8, 2011, Murray Hills Christian Church

General Assembly-July 9-13, 2011 Nashville, Tennessee

Regional Assembly with Sharon Watkins-May 18 & 19, 2012 in Albany Oregon

Thank you for reading our newsletter. Please send it on to others and forward us your e-mail address to get each issue sent directly to you.

Have you signed up for 40 Days e-mail Lenten Devotionals?

<http://www.disciplesmissionfundorg/SpecialDayOfferings/EasterSpecialDayOffering/tabid/479/Default.aspx>

