



2024 Pentecost Offering Letter

Dear Idaho & Oregon friends,

The Pentecost offering, received in most congregations on May 12 and May 19, is vital to continuing our ministry of starting and supporting new Disciples congregations.

Every congregation in our region, including yours, was once a new congregation, coming together for worship and friendship, connecting with God and with other followers, sharing our journeys in order to strengthen each other, breaking bread together with glad and generous hearts.

Do you know your congregation's origin story? Or is it older than your memory? Chances are that your congregation was planted by people from somewhere else who saw the need for a congregation and invested their resources to help make it happen. The legacy of those early years is more than just a building; the legacy includes the vision and mission that shaped the people in the congregation. Today, we continue to build the legacy by starting and supporting new congregations as they come together around a vision and a mission.

Our new congregations in Oregon and SW Idaho are involved in mission in exciting ways, finding healing and transformation!

- The recent Chuukese Youth Easter Rally drew 300 youth and young adults from 5 congregations, including a new-to-us group just beginning in Vancouver. This group is so new that they don't have a name yet, and they are exploring affiliating with Disciples.
- Our Hispanic churches sponsored a Men's Retreat, because they saw Women's Retreats happening but nothing for men.
- The Chuukese congregations came together to fill a container with food and supplies for Global Missions project to help in the Pacific Islands.
- Iglesia Cristiana Nueva Vida gathers a large food box continually, for a monthly giveaway in their neighborhood park.

These congregations are growing, thriving, because they are involved in God's mission where they are; in many ways, these congregations ARE God's mission in their neighborhoods and beyond.

The annual Pentecost Special Day Offering has a twin focus: One half stays in our Oregon & SW Idaho Regional Church to support our congregations in formation and to help with new starts; the other half supports the New Church Ministry of our General Church, which trains new church planters and leaders, and supports the new church ministry teams of every region.

Your generosity helps give vibrancy to the ministry of new churches today and contributes to the legacy for generations after us. Thank you!

New Church Ministry Team in Oregon and SW Idaho