

Title: Report of South Idaho

Origin: Larry Crist

The following is provided for information to the General Board of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ).

Regional Staff: Larry Crist

Number of Congregations: 13

Total Members: 3075

States included in Region: South Idaho and a small piece of Ontario, Oregon

Information regarding how the Region of South Idaho fulfilled its primary purpose as stated in paragraph 20 of *The Design*.

The ministry of Christ in South Idaho has been and is being fulfilled through mission and teaching in the following ways:

- a. Our camp and conference program reaches over 200 persons both youth and adult each year. We find this to be a very significant time for all who attend. During this time we lift up and encourage mission both far and near. This is a critical environment for persons to be exposed to the very best we have to teach about Christ. This also extends into our fall and spring events. We are currently ministering to a group of young people who are not “mainstream” and find this stimulating and challenging.
- b. We promote mission opportunities every time we get a chance, and sometimes when we do not. We have been to Nicaragua, Bowmont and Yakama. In the last year we have had missionaries from China and Nicaragua and The People to People Coordinator in our region.
- c. The Region has provided “Disciple Notes” to each congregation for the year.
- d. We do not, however, do a very good job of impacting the social structures of our surrounding area. There are at least three very dominate (prevailing) religions in the area that really complicate any influence we might have.

Particular highlights or challenges of ministry in your region since the last report.

Over the last several years the Region has been accumulating an ongoing debt related to General Fund expenditures being more than income. After consultation with Church Extension and several special Board meetings it was decided to establish a Line of Credit with CE in the amount of \$35,000. At the same time the Board also put into place a 2008 Budget that was balanced and provided for a monthly payment to begin repaying the Line of Credit. This is all good news but we hope the current economy can and will support such a move on our part. We need to further define our ministry priorities and do some strategic planning. This action will help us put into place a long range funding process for the future.