

ECUMENICAL MINISTRIES *of* OREGON

Media Release

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“Hearing the Cries for Justice” to focus on criminal justice reform

Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon (EMO) will present “Hearing the Cries for Justice,” a new and innovative conference on criminal justice reform, Jan. 30 at Trinity Episcopal Cathedral in northwest Portland. The event will bring together professionals, faith leaders and persons with lived experience of the criminal justice system. Using a restorative justice approach, it will inspire and equip community members to help change hearts, minds and society itself.

Interactive workshops will focus on diverse areas for possible change and healing. Participants will join in conversations to identify the most urgent issues to address. Recognizing the challenges faced by persons in prison and returning to the community after incarceration, participants will explore ways faith communities can provide support and accountability to individuals, alongside professionals and family and friends. Speakers and session leaders will look at challenges and opportunities within the justice system and points for policy reform advocacy, and will explore ways faith communities can learn from the voices of crime survivors and learn to understand the complexity of the term “victim.”

The convocation is open to everyone from across Oregon, in recognition of the disparate impacts of prisons on rural and urban parts of the state.

Sponsors include the Episcopal Diocese of Oregon, Episcopal Bishop of Oregon Foundation, and Episcopal Diocese of Eastern Oregon. The focus of keynote speakers will be on ways faith communities can aid in reforming the criminal justice system.

The event will take place Tuesday, Jan. 30, from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., at Trinity Episcopal Cathedral, 147 NE 19th Ave., Portland. Admission is \$10 per person. Registration is available at emoregon.org or by calling (503) 221-1054.

MEMBER DENOMINATIONS

African Methodist Episcopal Church ■ American Baptist Churches of Oregon ■ Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) ■ Christian Methodist Episcopal Church ■ Church of the Brethren ■ Community of Christ
Episcopal Diocese of Eastern Oregon ■ Episcopal Diocese of Oregon ■ Evangelical Lutheran Church in America ■ Greek Orthodox Church ■ Presbyterian Church (USA)—Presbytery of the Cascades
Religious Society of Friends (Quakers) ■ Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Portland ■ United Church of Christ ■ United Methodist Church ■ Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches

Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon is a statewide association of Christian denominations, congregations, ecumenical organizations and interfaith partners working together to improve the lives of Oregonians through community ministry programs, ecumenical and interreligious dialogue, earth ministry and public policy advocacy.