

ECUMENICAL MINISTRIES *of* OREGON

Media Release

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Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon installs new leadership

On April 15, 2009, the Rev. Dr. Lowell Greathouse, minister of discipleship at First United Methodist Church in Portland, assumed the role of president of Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon (EMO) Board of Directors at its annual board retreat. He is the fourth EMO president from the United Methodist Church. Greathouse replaces immediate past president, Jim Buck, executive director of the Oregon School Personnel Association and member of St. Henry Catholic Church in Gresham.

Also installed were the following officers of the board of directors: president-elect, the Rev. Lynn Smouse-López, pastor at Ainsworth United Church of Christ; treasurer, Trudy Bradley, office manager at First Congregational Church in Portland and member of First Christian Church in Portland; and secretary, the Rev. Dr. Marilyn Sewell, retiring senior minister at First Unitarian Church in Portland.

Before his current position at First United Methodist Church, Greathouse was the vision council manager for the United Way of the Columbia-Willamette and an adjunct professor at Concordia University. He has also held pastoral positions at First United Methodist Church in Beaverton, Lake Oswego United Methodist Church and Filer United Methodist Church in Idaho. Greathouse earned a Doctor of Ministry from Azusa Pacific University and Master of Divinity from San Francisco Theological Seminary.

“Especially in these difficult times, it is critical that the faith community find the inner fire of our various traditions and claim our public voice, so we can reflect theologically upon the important issues of our day, serve the needs of the wider community with a sense of compassion and love, and advocate publicly on those matters related to poverty, justice, peace, the environment and interfaith dialogue,” said Greathouse. “In many ways, EMO is really an extension of local church life as it provides a variety of direct services to immigrant communities, those with HIV/AIDS, those who are hungry, etc. We are also involved in and committed to stewardship of the environment.”

Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon is a statewide association of Christian denominations—including Protestant, Roman Catholic and Orthodox bodies—congregations, ecumenical organizations and interfaith partners working together to improve the lives of Oregonians through community ministry programs, ecumenical and interreligious dialogue, environmental ministry and public policy advocacy.

MEMBER DENOMINATIONS

African Methodist Episcopal Church » American Baptist Churches » 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) » Religious Society of Friends (Quakers)
Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Portland » United Church of Christ » United Methodist Church » Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches