

ECUMENICAL MINISTRIES *of* OREGON

Media Release

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Jan Musgrove Elfers named Executive Director of Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon

PORTLAND, OREGON . . . The board of directors of Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon (EMO) announced today the appointment of Jan Musgrove Elfers as the organization's new executive director. Jan has served as EMO's interim executive director since June of 2015. Her career at EMO spans 13 years and includes positions as director of public policy advocacy, director of member relations, and director of peace programs, reflecting her vision, passion and dedication to service to the Oregon community.

Jan's appointment follows a six-month national search process led by a nine-member search committee that surfaced a large and diverse pool of candidates. This broad-based interest speaks highly of EMO's leadership role both statewide and nationally.

The Rev. Susan Kintner, president of EMO's board of directors, said, "We are looking forward to our next chapter of justice and peace ministry in Oregon with Jan Elfers' leadership. Her passion for this organization and the people of our state will lead us in hope."

Following the announcement, Jan Elfers spoke to EMO board and staff members, saying "I am so grateful for the privilege to serve as executive director of EMO. This organization lives fully into God's call to love all of humanity. I will give myself fully to this role and ask that you join me in helping this organization be the hands and heart of Christ in our world, seeking to meet the needs of the most vulnerable, and engaging more and more people to join us in this mission. As we stand with those who are suffering, we heal and are healed by one another."

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

Jan has served on the board of directors of the National Religious Campaign Against Torture Action Fund and the Commission to End Racism at the Episcopal Diocese of Oregon. She is currently a board member of the Institute for Christian/Muslim Understanding. In 2009, Jan received the Friends of the Muslim Educational Trust Award. She has served on numerous panels and has led workshops and retreats regarding interfaith understanding and dialogue and contemplative practices.

Jan earned a B.A. in Psychology at Lewis and Clark College. She completed a Masters Degree in Theology at Marylhurst University in 2006, focusing on the role of interreligious dialogue in peacemaking. During her practicum experience at EMO, she wrote a peace resource guide.

Jan is a member of St. Michael and All Angels Episcopal Church in Portland. In September 2015, she completed a two-year course of study at Fr. Richard Rohr's Living School for Action and Contemplation. Jan and her husband Michael have been married for 32 years and have a daughter and son, ages 29 and 25. She is third generation Oregonian, born and raised in Eugene.

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, environmental ministry and public policy advocacy.