

What is the Western District Church Extension Society?

They are the churches of the Western District working together to help those churches which have special needs that they alone cannot (financially) meet. In other words “*churches helping churches*”. These needs may be to the physical facility (church or parsonage), may involve strengthening current ministries, or may involve developing new ministries.

In the past 25 years, 41 churches in the Western District have received over \$400,000 in grants and loans. These included projects such as: church expansion at Stayton UMC, siding repair at Jefferson UMC, reroof of parsonage at Sheridan and Molalla UMC, new ministry support at Forest Grove and Hillsboro UMC and computer lab at Morningside UMC.

Who Belongs to WDCES?

Membership consists of: the Bishop, Western District Superintendent, District Lay Leader, all pastors serving in the District, and the lay leader plus one additional lay member from each charge conference. The

role of both the pastor and lay members of each charge conference is to act as a liaison between the Western District Extension Society and the local church; to be knowledgeable as sources, and type of support available; and attend the annual meeting of the society which is held each Fall.

Who serves on the Board of Directors?

The Board of Directors are elected by the society membership at the annual meeting, typically in October. Each director serves a three year term and may be re-elected. Directors are nominated by the board with consideration given to maintaining a balance between clergy and laity.

Where does the WDCES obtain their funding?

We are funded through an “asking” requested of all Western District Churches through the Conference Treasurer’s office, and through investment interest and dividends. In addition, we invite funds from individuals throughout the district to join our \$50 Club. The

How do I know if our church qualifies for assistance from WDCES?

Obtain an application form from the Western District office or downloaded from the web site and submit to the WDCES. The WDCES Project Manager will review the request, determine if additional information is needed and present the request to the WDCES Board for approval. The Project Manager will contact you to let know if the request has been approved. In addition, in case of emergencies, the District Superintendent has a discretionary fund, up to \$500, available for use.

Is there a limit to the amount of Assistance?

The Board of Directors has established specific guidelines and limits to be followed when considering each request. However, the final decision is based on many factors such as scope of the project, the need, source of additional funding for the project, budget of the society and whether a grant or loan request.



Recent Projects

Projects helped by the WDCES in recent years include:

Tillamook – Church roof

Nehalem – Church Bell Tower

Stayton – Church expansion

Molalla – Parsonage roof

Sheridan – Parsonage roof

Casa Metodista – Ongoing programs

Mountain Home – Windows

Forest Grove – New worship service

Hillsboro – New ministry

Jefferson – Siding repair

Morningside – Computer lab

Vision of the Society

The Vision of the WDCES is –
“a healthy congregation in every community, possessing the facilities and having resources that enable God's people to worship, learn, teach, and witness to the Good News of Jesus Christ.”

We ask the membership of the society to share our vision so that *“our dreams become reality”*. However, this requires the society to have the necessary resources. We request that you encourage your church to pay it's *“asking”* for the WDCES.

You can also join the \$50 Club!

Write a check to WDCES
Mark “\$50 Club” on the memo line
Mail it, along with the information below, to:

WDCES
c/o Western District Office
680 State St., Suite 200
Salem, OR 97302

Name _____

Address _____

Church _____

WESTERN DISTRICT CHURCH EXTENSION SOCIETY

“Dedicated to Growing the Church”

<http://www.umoi.net/artman/publish/wdces.shtml>



Open hearts, Open minds, Open doors.
The people of the United Methodist Church