

ECUMENICAL MINISTRIES *of* OREGON

Media Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon honors Jubilee Oregon with humanitarian award

Jubilee Oregon will be honored with the “Vollum Ecumenical Humanitarian Award” on Oct. 13, 2009, at the Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon (EMO) Annual Community Awards & Celebration Dinner. Named for the late Howard Vollum and his wife Jean, the award recognizes outstanding commitment to humanitarian responsibility that has significantly enhanced the quality of life for all.

Jubilee Oregon, a local chapter of Jubilee USA Network, is an all volunteer group committed to fulfilling the Jubilee goal of definitive cancellation of crushing debts to fight poverty and injustice in Asia, Africa and Latin America.

In the “Jubilee Year” as quoted in Leviticus, those enslaved because of debts are freed, lands lost because of debt are returned, and community torn by inequality is restored. According to Jubilee USA Network, “Today, international debt has become a new form of slavery. Debt slavery means poor people working harder and harder in a vain effort to keep up with the interest payments on debts owed to rich countries including the United States and international financial institutions such as the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the World Bank.” The Jubilee USA Network and its local affiliates bring together people to turn this reality around by active solidarity with partners worldwide, targeted and timely advocacy strategies, and educational outreach.

The EMO Annual Community Awards & Celebration Dinner will be held at the Hilton Hotel, 921 SW Sixth Ave., Portland. A reception and silent auction to benefit EMO’s ministries will be held from 5:30 to 7 p.m. and the dinner and award presentations will begin at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$60 per person and table sponsorships are available for \$600. For more information, call Carla Starrett-Bigg at (503) 221-1054 or csbigg@emoregon.org.

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 ■ African Methodist Episcopal Zion 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