

# ECUMENICAL MINISTRIES *of* OREGON

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## *Media Release*

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### **Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon elects new leadership**

On May 6, 2008, Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon (EMO) installed new officers to serve on their Board of Directors at its Annual Community Awards and Celebration Dinner, held at the Governor Hotel in Portland.

Outgoing president, the Rev. Kent Harrop, senior pastor of First Baptist Church in McMinnville, installed incoming president Jim Buck, executive director of the Oregon School Personnel Association and member of St. Henry Catholic Church in Gresham. Harrop also installed the following officers of the board of directors: president-elect, the Rev. Dr. Lowell Greathouse, pastor at First United Methodist Church in Portland; treasurer, Trudy Bradley, office manager at First Congregational Church in Portland and member of First Christian Church in Portland; and secretary, Robina Ingram-Rich, registered nurse/genetic counselor at Oregon Health Sciences University and member of First Christian Church in Portland.

“I am honored and humbled to serve as president of Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon, knowing how illustrious and industrious the prior presidents have been,” said Buck, after his installation as president. “We’re not called to perfection in this life, but I believe each of us is called to both holiness and to wholeness as one people on this one earth. We can’t achieve this alone, which is why we have church and organizations like EMO.”

Buck has served the past six years as executive director for the Oregon School Personnel Association. He also serves as a hearings officer and consultant for school system management reviews and fact-finding investigations. Prior to these positions, Buck worked as the lead designer and principal grant writer for the Center for Advanced Learning, a charter school sponsored by four districts in and around Gresham. His 25 years of administrative experience in Oregon include being school district superintendent, assistant superintendent, director of human resources, principal and special services director. Previously, he taught middle school and served as a behavioral consultant.

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#### 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

Buck serves presently on a number of statewide committees pertaining to such issues as mentoring, licensure and interagency partnership. He began his educational career as a Jesuit Volunteer, dedicating two years to teaching Native Americans at Pascal Sherman Indian School on the Colville Reservation in Washington. His present community service includes being chair of the East County Caring Community and chair of Faith Partners, an addictions prevention team at St. Henry Parish.

*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.*