

## Rev. Dr. Rodney I. Page 2017 Ageless Award Honoree

In 1962, Rodney Page arrived in Portland from seminary where he became Associate Minister at First Christian Church and Campus Minister at Portland State University. During that time, he became active in the Greater Portland Council of Churches and the Oregon Council of Churches. Since the beginning of his career, he focused on building community, and in 1965, he wrote the first service where Roman Catholics, Orthodox and Protestants prayed together, attracting 2,000 people to the service.

In 1974, Rev. Dr. Page became the Associate Director and in 1981, Executive Director, of Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon where he initiated numerous new programs including Project Linkage, Hopewell House and co-founded the Oregon Interreligious Committee for Peace in the Middle East. As the Executive Director of Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon, he increased the budget from \$250,000 a year to \$7 million, and the staff from 9 to 150.

In 1996, Rev. Dr. Page was elected to the position of Executive Director of Church World Service and the Deputy General Secretary of the National Council of Churches of Christ in the USA. As the head of Church World Service he increased the budget from \$43 million a year to \$62 million. He also developed a new strategic plan that completely reorganized Church World Service.

In 2000, Rev. Dr. Page retired. He presently volunteers at Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon by serving on the President's Circle. In this role and as an honorary member of its Board, he continues to sustain the power of the organization. He is the Chair of the Elders of First Christian Church and has taken various leadership roles with the Kiwanis Club of Portland, including President and Lt. Governor of Division 62. Together, Rev. Dr. Page and his wife, Sandi, volunteer by preparing meals at P:EAR, a program for homeless youth, Meals on Wheels, the Bridge Pedal and Sunday Parkways.

