

THE WEEK AHEAD AT WEST SIDE CHRISTIAN

- Today, Jan. 6th:** 9:00 a.m. - Coffee Fellowship
 9:30 a.m. - Prayer Circle (Disciples Classroom)
 9:45 a.m. - Church School
 11:00 a.m. - Sunday Worship
 12:00 p.m. - CWF Luncheon
 1:00 p.m. - Administrative Cabinet
 3:00 p.m. - District VIII Board
- Mon., Jan. 7th:** 9:00 a.m. - Preschool & Kindergarten
 7:00 p.m. - Green Lakes Civic League
 7:00 p.m. - Disciple Bible Study 2
 9:00 p.m. - Basketball Game @ Parker
- Tues., Jan. 8th:** 9:00 a.m. - Preschool & Kindergarten
 7:00 p.m. - Official Board
- Wed., Jan. 9th:** 9:00 a.m. - Preschool & Kindergarten
 11:00 a.m. - Preschool Chapel
 7:00 p.m. - Disciple Bible Study 1
 7:15 p.m. - Choir Rehearsal
- Thurs., Jan. 10th:** 9:00 a.m. - Preschool & Kindergarten
- Fri., Jan. 11th:** 9:00 a.m. - Preschool & Kindergarten
- Sat., Jan. 12th:** 10:00 a.m. - CWF Brunch
- Sun., Jan. 13th:** 9:00 a.m. - Coffee Fellowship
 9:30 a.m. - Prayer Circle (Disciples Classroom)
 9:45 a.m. - Church School
 11:00 a.m. - Sunday Worship

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- CWF Soup & Salad Luncheon immediately following worship today. Adults \$5.00, Children 12-under \$2.50.
- Administrative Cabinet meets today at 1:00 PM.
- January 17th & 18th members of West Side will go to Oasis to help bag food that was collected during the Advent season. These bags will be distributed on January 19th. Please sign up on the information board to help with these meaningful tasks.
- Disciple Bible Study 2 resumes this week. Study on Exodus.

OFFERING

WEEKLY BUDGET EXPENSES: \$3,418.00

Received for Budget: (December 30, 2007)	\$ 2,842.45
General Building Fund:	374.00
Christmas Offering:	185.00
Scholarship Fund: (Disciples Class Teachers)	100.00
Memorial Fund: (Barbara White)	1,000.00
Other: (Donuts, Bible Study, Playground Equipment, Aluminum Cans)	192.55
TOTAL for December 30, 2007	\$ 4,694.00

Who is the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)?

The Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) originated on the American Frontier during the early 19th Century. Its first leaders were Barton Stone and Alexander Campbell, Presbyterians who reacted against sectarian frontier religion and urged a union of all Christians founded upon the restoration of New Testament Christianity. They advocated adult baptism by immersion, weekly observance of The Lord's Supper, and autonomy of the local congregation.

Congregations accept new members through a confession of faith and baptism or by transfer of membership from other denominations. Worship styles vary from congregation to congregation, but all observe communion each Sunday. The communion table is open to all. It is a place where we come to experience the power of God's love and the grace of Jesus Christ in the breaking of bread and the drinking of the cup. Our gathering at the communion table is the central focus of our worship service.

Disciples advocate freedom and embrace diversity. We are a non-creedal tradition which means that creeds and doctrines do not dictate how we are to live out our faith. Each person is challenged to study the scriptures and discern God's will for their own life. The Christian Church has always served as a "bridge church" or a common ground for people with diverse denominational backgrounds. We believe in welcoming *all* people into relationship with Jesus Christ.

Who is West Side Christian Church?

The West Side Christian Church had its beginning on July 1, 1956 when 105 members of the Park View Christian Church, located on Hatton Street in downtown Portsmouth, were commissioned to organize a new Christian Church in the West End. The newly formed congregation held its first worship service on July 8, 1956 in the Grove Park Seventh Day Adventist Church on Winchester Drive. Attendance was 131. Those temporary facilities were utilized until the first unit of the present plant was constructed. In August of 1956, both the Christian Women's Fellowship and the Christian Men's Fellowship groups were chartered.

West Side Christian Church recently celebrated its 50th anniversary and has recommitted itself to doing ministry in the city of Portsmouth. We see ourselves as a loving and caring congregation open to where God is calling us. In many ways, we are like a giant family committed to one another and to Jesus Christ. With nearly 400 members, we are continuing to grow and hope you will consider making West Side your church home.



Established 1956

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DISCIPLES OF CHRIST

Rev. Nathan Brown, Minister
Becky Barclay, Music Director

Welcome to West Side Christian Church

~January 6, 2008 ~

Rev. Nathan Brown, Minister
Becky Barclay, Music Director



**GREETING & ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE "We Three Kings" Hopkins-Sorenson

BRINGING IN THE LIGHT OF CHRIST

*RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP Elder, Bobby Beal

Elder: Have you seen the star? Have you heard the good news?
God, who created all things, has come to earth.

**ALL: We have heard of a baby born in Bethlehem.
We have seen evidence that God is with us.**

Elder: Have you allowed God to reign in your life?
Have you laid your gifts before the Holy Child?

**ALL: We have noticed the generous travelers from the east.
They inspire in us a willingness to share.**

Elder: God's call to us is for justice, beyond generosity.
Are you ready for God's eternal purpose in Christ?

**ALL: We have been afraid to trust God completely.
Yet we want to respond to God's dreams for us.**

*WORSHIP HYMN "As with Gladness" CH, 173

*UNISON INVOCATION AND LORD'S PRAYER

ALL: Arise upon us, holy God, and let your glory appear over us today. Come in the brightness of your dawn to bring light to all the nations of earth. Gather us together in such harmony that we may discern your will for us and be led in your ways. Fill us with that radiant joy that allows us to reflect your goodness. Let all people praise you, O God. Let our praise resound through all the world. We pray these things in the name of Jesus who taught us to pray saying, "Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory for ever and ever. Amen."

*GLORIA PATRI CH, 35

OLD TESTAMENT READING Isaiah 60: 1-6

MORNING PRAYER Rev. Brown

INVITATION TO CHRISTIAN STEWARDSHIP

OFFERTORY "The Quiet Carol" Macklin

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

ALL: We bring our wealth to praise you, God. All the riches of our abundance you have provided. The land has yielded prosperity for us so that even the poorest among us have something to give. Above all, we are thankful for your revelation in Jesus Christ that gives us good news to share. May this offering accomplish among us, and far beyond us, the mission you give to each one of your people. Amen.

*THE DOXOLOGY CH, 46

COMMUNION HYMN "The Voice of Jesus Calls His People" CH, 426

The Lord's Table is open for all who believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the living God. Christ has set the table before us. It is by His invitation we are fed. You may eat of the bread as it is passed and drink of the cup at the conclusion of the Words of Institution.

PRAYER FOR THE BREAD Elder, Bobby Beal

PRAYER FOR THE CUP Elder, Kitty Baker

WORDS OF INSTITUTION Rev. Brown

ANTHEM "Carol for Epiphany" Pfaustch

SERMON TEXT Matthew 2: 1-12

SERMON "Choosing Another Way" Rev. Brown

HYMN OF INVITATION "Help Us Accept Each Other" CH, 487

During the singing of the hymn of Invitation, we invite anyone wishing to become a Christian or wishing to unite with this congregation, to please come forward.

*BENEDICTION Rev. Brown

*POSTLUDE "The Old Year Now Has Passed Away" J.S. Bach

DIACONATE SERVING TODAY

Dave Lowman, Melinda Powers, William Brown, Pam Brown

IN NEED OF PRAYER

Mark Warren, Ann Hall, Dickie Hayes, Dawn Price, Debbie Johnson, Sharon Jenson, Betty McCrickard, Jimmy Bracy, Ron Riffle, Herschel Carter, Matthew Davis, Brenda Losh, Gray Family, Fritts Family, Maureen Powers, Dawn Weiss, Wilda Dryer Christine Bradley, Al Hemby, Jessica & Michael Gates, Kristin & Anthony Williams, Cavanaugh Family, Sandy Phillips, Phillips Family, Judy Kelly, Masil Jones, Ben Adderholdt, Branch Family, Connie Hutto, Esther Daniel, Powell Family, Melodie Bronson, Joseph Irwin, Jay Naclerio, Sarah Crawford, Bobby Ryder, Tara Weinmann, Ellen Nelson.

SHUT-INS

Rev. Glenn Weaver, Ruth Blackman, Sylvia Dickens, Sandy Cotton, Dennis Davenport, Roland Thornton

*PLEASE STAND AS YOU ARE ABLE

**At the conclusion of the announcements, children ages 3-8 are dismissed to attend "Worship and Wonder", following a prayer with Rev. Brown