

STATEMENT OF CALLING

West Side Christian Church
is a faithful and caring church family
committed to making Disciples of Jesus Christ in our
Church, our Community,
and our **World.**

Church: *Equip* our church family through spiritual growth and leadership development.

Community: *Share* the love of Christ through service.

World: *Witness* through support of Disciples' missions.

A VISION FOR THE CHRISTIAN CHURCH (Disciples of Christ)

OUR VISION

To be a faithful, growing church, that demonstrates true community, deep Christian spirituality and a passion for justice. (Micah 6:8)

OUR MISSION

To be and to share the Good News of Jesus Christ, witnessing, loving and serving from our doorsteps "to the ends of the earth." (Acts 1:8)

2020 VISION

- 1000 new congregations
- 1000 transformed congregations
- The leadership development necessary to realize these new and renewed congregations
- All within a context of being an anti-racist/pro-reconciling church.

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.

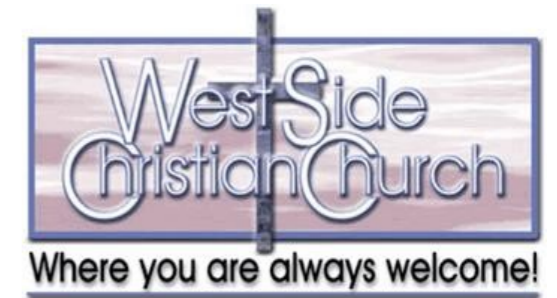
Congregations accept new members through a confession of faith and baptism or by transfer of membership from other denominations. Worship styles vary from congregation to congregation, but all observe communion each Sunday. The communion table is open to all. It is a place where we come to experience 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.



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DISCIPLES OF CHRIST

Rev. Nathan Brown, Minister
Becky Barclay, Music Director

WELCOME
West Side Christian Church
 July 13, 2008



****GREETING & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

PRELUDE "Thou Shalt Bring Them In" Handel

BRINGING IN THE LIGHT OF CHRIST

*RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP Elder, Fred Fritts

Elder: The God of Jacob and Esau promises us a special birthright, eternal life through Christ.

ALL: Farmer Christ has sown life in us and teaches us to sow the Good News.

Elder: The Spirit of God dwells in, through, and among us.

ALL: We gather in the name of the Father, Son and the Holy Spirit.

Elder: Let us praise God for crowning us with goodness.

*WORSHIP HYMN "Fairest Lord Jesus" CH, 97

***UNISON INVOCATION AND LORD'S PRAYER**

ALL: Most merciful God, through Jesus Christ you have set us free from slavery to sin, that we might become your children; help us in this our service of praise, to sing of our freedom with joy, to long for it in our prayers, and to be assured of it in the proclamation of your word. We ask 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

NEW TESTAMENT READING Romans 8:26-39

MORNING PRAYER

INVITATION TO CHRISTIAN STEWARDSHIP

OFFERTORY "Savior, Thy Dying Love" arr. Southbridge

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

ALL: Almighty God, your boundless miracles in nature are such a small display of your awesome deeds. You visibly enrich our lives with the bounty of the earth's beauty. How can we ever adequately honor the gift of a beautiful sunset or the fragility of a butterfly's dance? Abundantly increase these gifts so that we may be more faithful stewards of your entire creation. To you be all honor and glory. Amen.

*THE DOXOLOGY CH, 46

COMMUNION HYMN "Break Thou the Bread of Life" CH, 321

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, Fred Fritts

PRAYER FOR THE CUP Elder, Kitty Baker

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

ANTHEM "Worship Tapestry" Harlan

SERMON TEXT Genesis 25:19-34

SERMON "Functional Forgiveness" Rev. Brown

HYMN OF INVITATION "Open My Eyes, That I May See" CH, 586

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

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE "Postlude on 'Old Hundredth'" Grace

Diaconate Serving Today
 Brendon McNelis, Wendy McNelis, Erin Ripley, Brooke Lowman

* 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*

Offering for July 6 2008

WEEKLY BUDGET EXPENSES: \$3,418.00

Received for Budget:	\$ 4,859.05
Building Fund:	50.00
Other: (Coffee/Donuts, Flowers, FC)	95.50
TOTAL for July 6, 2008	<u>\$ 5,004.55</u>

THIS WEEK AT WEST SIDE CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Today, July 13th:	9:00 a.m. Coffee Fellowship 9:45 a.m. Church School 11:00 a.m. Worship Service 12:00 p.m. VBS Kickoff Lunch
Mon., July 14th:	9:00 a.m. VBS
Tues., July 15th:	9:00 a.m. VBS 6:30 p.m. Transition Team
Wed., July 16th:	9:00 a.m. VBS
Thurs., July 17th:	9:00 a.m. VBS 9:30 a.m. Oasis
Fri., July 18th:	9:00 a.m. VBS
Sat., July 19th:	No Scheduled Activities
Sun., July 20th:	9:00 a.m. Coffee Fellowship 9:45 a.m. Church School 11:00 a.m. Worship Service

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Today's church flowers are given in memory of Amy Landrum by the Gray family.
- The CYF will not meet during the months of July and August.
- Join us for food and fun today in our worship service as we kick off the start of our Vacation Bible School program.
- It's time to help serve at Oasis. Join us as we assist with the serving of lunch on Thursday, July 17th beginning at 10:00 AM. If you can't be at church no later than 9:30 AM. A sign-up sheet is provided on the bulletin board in the membership center.
- The Membership Committee is hosting a Yard Sale to benefit the Preschool on August 2nd from 8AM to 2PM. If you wish to donate items, please see the sign-up sheet in the membership center and August 1st.
- Please submit August newsletter articles to Trish no later than Monday, July 21st.

IN NEED OF PRAYER

Lynne Thomas, Masil Jones, Fox Family, Ethan Ward, Rita Maham, Mary Wyatt, Barbara Brown, Dolores Kearns, Prindley Taylor, Hayes Family, John Milaree, Parker, Davenport, Janice Dewese, Doug Tatum, Carl Lovin, Dennis White, Terrains, Shea, Marlene Wehrst, Mark Ward, Dickie Hayes, Dawn Price, Debbie Johns, McCrickard, Jimmy Bron, Riffle, Matthew Davis, Brenda Gray Family, Wilda Dyer, Christi Bradley, Jessica, Michael Gates, Kristin & Anthony Williams Family, Sandy Phillips, Phillips Family, Branch Family, Esther Daniel, Joseph Irwin, Sandra Crawford, Bobby Ryan, Weinmann, Elaine

SHUT-INS

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