

## 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.

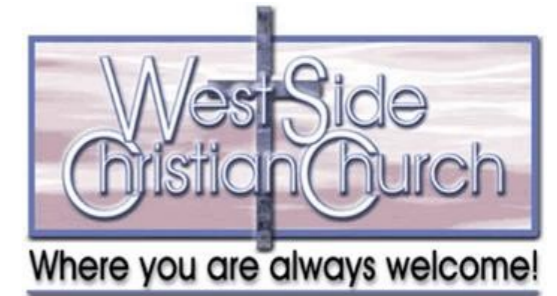
Congregations accept new members through a confession of faith and baptism or by transfer of membership from other denominations. Worship styles vary from congregation to congregation, but all observe communion each Sunday. The communion table is open to all. It is a place where we come to experience 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 50<sup>th</sup> 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**  
**October 5, 2008**



**\*\*GREETING & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

PRELUDE "He Leadeth Me" arr. Ray

BRINGING IN THE LIGHT OF CHRIST

\*RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP Elder, Kitty Baker

Elder: Almighty God, it is by your grace that we are accepted and called to your service; strengthen us by your Spirit and empower us so that we may respond to your call;

**ALL: It is through Jesus Christ our Lord who is alive in us that allows us to respond.**

Elder: Everlasting God, by your Spirit the whole body of the Church is called into ministry; hear the prayers we offer for all your faithful people, that in the ministry to which you have called us we may serve you in love and compassion;

**ALL: Faithful and compassionate God, it is your Spirit that guides us; hear the prayers we offer, that in the ministries to which you have called us, we serve you faithfully, through Jesus Christ our Savior. AMEN.**

\*WORSHIP HYMN "O God of Vision" CH, 288

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

**ALL:** Amazing God, whose presence among us has been revealed so dramatically in Jesus of Nazareth, the One who became the cornerstone for your church, build each one of us into your household of faith, fitting us together by your great design into a beautiful witness to your truth, that resurrection power may energize us for service in your name and bring joyous transformation to all your children. 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  
 57 CENTS Millicent Wise

OLD TESTAMENT READING Exodus 20:1-4, 7-9, 12-20

MORNING PRAYER

INVITATION TO CHRISTIAN STEWARDSHIP

OFFERTORY "Hymnus" von Fielitz

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

**ALL:** Ruler of all space and time, we want to be faithful stewards in your vineyard. All that we have is yours. Our lives are in your hands. Help us to use well all that we here devote to the work of your church. Help us to manage well, to your honor and glory, all that we retain for ourselves. May we know heaven on earth because you hold first place in our priorities and our daily goal is to serve you. Amen.

\*THE DOXOLOGY CH, 46

COMMUNION HYMN "Bread of the World" CH, 387

*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, Kitty Baker

PRAYER FOR THE CUP Elder, Dave McCrickard

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

SOLO "I Then Shall Live" Fred Fritts

SERMON TEXT Matthew 20:1-16

SERMON "Thank God, It's Not Fair!" Rev. Brown

HYMN OF INVITATION "You Have Called Me" CH, 455  
*During the singing of the Hymn of Invitation, we invite anyone wishing to become a Christian or wishing to unite with this congregation, please come forward.*

BENEDICTION Rev. Brown

POSTLUDE "Honor and Glory" Wethe

**Diaconate Serving Today**  
 Brendon McNelis, Wendy McNelis, Cecil Dillon, Karen Hartzog

\* 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 September 28, 2008**

WEEKLY BUDGET EXPENSES: \$3,418.00

Received for Budget:	\$ 2,831.74
Building Fund:	265.00
Missions:	20.00
Reconciliation:	15.00
Handrails:	318.00
Playground Equipment:	500.00
Other: (Coffee/Donuts, Cans)	31.35
<b>TOTAL for September 28, 2008 . . . . .</b>	<b><u>\$ 3,981.09</u></b>

## THIS WEEK AT WEST SIDE CHRISITAN CHURCH

- Today, Oct. 5th:** 9:00 a.m. – Coffee Fellowship  
9:45 a.m. – Church School  
11:00 a.m. – Worship Service  
12:00 p.m. – First Sunday Lunch
- Mon., Oct. 6th:** 9:00 a.m. – Preschool & Kindergarten  
7:00 p.m. – Evening Prayer Group
- Tues., Oct. 7th:** 9:00 a.m. – Preschool & Kindergarten  
7:00 p.m. – Board Meeting
- Wed., Oct. 8th:** 9:00 a.m. – Preschool & Kindergarten  
9:00 a.m. – Morning Prayer Group  
6:30 p.m. – Transition Team  
7:00 p.m. – CWF (New Group)  
7:15 p.m. – Choir Practice
- Thurs., Oct. 9th:** 9:00 a.m. – Preschool & Kindergarten  
10:00 a.m. – FC In Use (Music Club Set-up)
- Fri., Oct. 10th:** 9:00 a.m. – Preschool & Kindergarten  
9:00 a.m. – FC & Sanctuary In Use (Music Club)
- Sat., Oct. 11th:** 9:00 a.m. – FC In Use (CWF Mini-Retreat)
- Sun., Oct. 12th:** 9:00 a.m. – Coffee Fellowship  
9:45 a.m. – Church School  
11:00 a.m. – Worship Service  
3:45 p.m. – Chi-Rho

### IN NEED OF PRAYER

Frances Wells, Bobby Beal, Jordan Lahy, Melissa & Ed Davidson, Ruby Fulcher, Rusty Benbury, Dottie Redmon, Terry Tucker, Robin Thomas, Patrick Petty, Masil Jones, Fox Family, Mary Wyatt, John Milam, Nora Davenport, Janice Deweese, Doug Tatum, Carl Loving, Lorraine Shea, Marlene Whitehurst, Mark Warren, Dickie Hayes, Dawn Price, Debbie Johnson, Betty McCrickard, Jimmy Bracy, Ron Riffle, Matthew Davis, Brenda Lohse, Cavanaugh Family, Sandy Phillips, Branch Family, Joseph Irwin, Sarah Crawford, Bobby Ryder, Ellen Nelson

### SHUT-INS

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

*Please call the church office, 488-0514, to add or remove a name from the prayer list. Names will remain on the list for one month unless requested to remain longer.*

~ October 5, 2008 ~

**CHANCEL FLOWERS** - Today's chancel flowers are given in memory of Jeff Pierce by Mary Bond.

**FIRST SUNDAY LUNCH** - Join us today following the worship service for our First Sunday lunch prepared by Dick Cornwell. The main course today is Meat Loaf.

**CONGRATULATIONS** - William and Barbara Powell celebrated their 50th Wedding anniversary on Saturday, October 4<sup>th</sup>.

**MEETING CHANGE** - The Official Board meeting has been changed to Tuesday, October 7<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM. Please make a note of this temporary change.

**NEW CWF GROUP** - For those ladies interested in joining a new CWF group, make plans to join us on Wednesday, October 8<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM in the Fellowship Center. For more information see Beth Branch or Kelly Terry.

**WEEKLY PRAYER GROUP** - A Wednesday morning prayer group meeting has begun and meets at 9:00 AM. For those who prefer an evening prayer group meeting, it will begin on Monday, October 6<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM. For more details see Dave McCrickard.

**CALLING CHURCH LEADERS** - The Nominating Committee is now accepting nominees from the congregation for potential church positions in 2009. Anyone wanting to nominate someone for the many available positions please pass their names to one of the following committee members. Mary Redmon, Chair; Pam Brown, Debbie Ripley, Allen Wallace and Jerry Thornton.

Nominations will not be accepted after October 15, 2008.

**CWF MINI-RETREAT** - Christian Women's Fellowship will be holding a mini-retreat on Saturday, October 11<sup>th</sup> from 9AM-3PM. Ladies of West Side, girlfriends, sisters, daughters, mother-in-laws, etc., are encouraged to attend. Lisa Reese will be our guest speaker and leader for the day. Registration forms are located on the foyer tables. This is something you will not want to miss!

**BILLY BATTE IN CONCERT** - Tickets for the Billy Batte concert on Thursday, October 30<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 PM are available for \$5.00. See Nancy Fritts or Brenda Hayth.

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