

## 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.

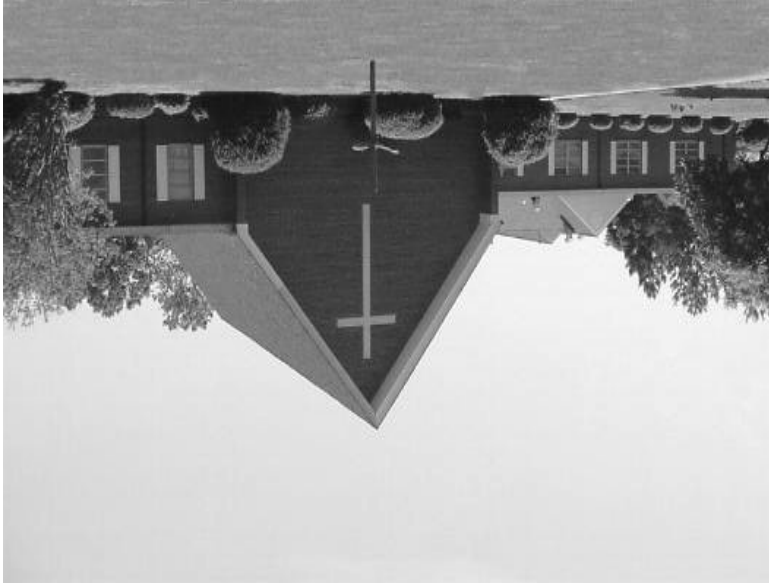
Congregations accept new members through a confession of faith and baptism or by transfer of membership from other denominations. Worship styles vary from congregation to congregation, but all observe communion each Sunday. The communion table is open to all. It is a place where we come to experience 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 Hutton 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 it's 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**  
**June 28, 2009**



**\*\*GREETING & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**BRINGING IN THE LIGHT OF CHRIST**

**PRELUDE** "Prelude #1" J. S. Bach

**\*RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP** Elder, Lynne Thomas

Elder: Gather in awe before God, who laid the foundations of the earth. Open your hearts to the steadfast love God offers.

**ALL: The deeds of God are beyond our knowing. Yet we catch glimpses of God's mercy and care.**

Elder: God does not forsake us when we are dismayed and afraid. Our Creator is with us in all times and places.

**ALL: God is a stronghold for the oppressed and troubled. The needy and the poor are not forgotten.**

Elder: God is ready to listen to us in these moments together. See, now is the acceptable time, the day of salvation.

**ALL: Surely God will meet us here in our faith community! How good it is when we sense our unity in Christ!**

**\*WORSHIP HYMN** "All People That on Earth Do Dwell" CH, 18

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

**ALL:** We sing praises to you, O God, for you have been gracious to us amid the storms of life. We do battle with many enemies within and among us, but you give us confidence and courage to face them. Out of the whirlwind, you answer when we call. We have gathered to listen for the voice we sometimes cannot hear in the daily clamor of our lives. Help us to discard the excess baggage and unnecessary armor that keeps us from the fullness of life you intend for us. 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

**OLD TESTAMENT READING** Job 38:1-11

**MORNING PRAYER**

**INVITATION TO CHRISTIAN STEWARDSHIP**

**OFFERTORY** "I Love to Tell the Story" Fischer

**PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

**ALL:** Thank you, God, for meeting us in our need. We give that others in even greater need might not be forgotten. We are grateful for the trust you place in us. We give that others might respond to the good news of your love. We are hearing the word Jesus spoke in the midst of a storm: "Peace! Be still!" With fresh calm and confidence, we give ourselves that others might live. Thank you, God, for your steadfast love endures forever. Amen.

**\*THE DOXOLOGY** CH, 46

**COMMUNION MEDITATION** Rev. Brown

**COMMUNION HYMN** "Softly and Tenderly" CH, 340

*The Lord's Table is open for all people. 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, Lynne Thomas

**PRAYER FOR THE CUP** Elder, Sharon Jenson

**WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

**ANTHEM** "Amazing Grace" Excell-King

**SERMON TEXT** Mark 4:35-41

**SERMON** "The Best Kind of Tired" Rev. Brown

**HYMN OF INVITATION** "O Jesus, I Have Promised" CH, 612  
*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** "Trumpet Allemande" Holborne

**DIACONATE SERVING TODAY**  
 William Brown, Courtney Brown, Kristen Brown, Carrie Kelly

*\* 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.*

**OFFERING FOR June 21, 2009**

**WEEKLY BUDGET EXPENSES: \$4,718.00**

Received for Budget:	\$ 2,721.00
Building Fund:	110.00
Roof:	5,000.00
Parking Lot:	200.00
Lawn Mowers:	200.00
Other: (Coffee/Donuts, Flowers)	8.97
<b>TOTAL for June 14, 2009 .....</b>	<b>\$ 8,239.97</b>