

## 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.



### "Leaving By Another Road"



### "The Journey of the Magi"

By Jan Richardson  
*The Luminous Word: Entering the Mysteries of Advent  
& Christmas, 2005.*

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[www.westsideccdoc.org](http://www.westsideccdoc.org)



**DISCIPLES OF CHRIST**

Rev. Nathan Brown, Minister  
Becky Barclay, Music Director

**WELCOME**  
**West Side Christian Church**  
 January 3, 2010



**THE COMMUNITY GATHERS TO SERVE GOD**

**\*\*SHARING THE NEWS OF WEST SIDE.....**Rev. Brown

**BRINGING IN THE LIGHT OF CHRIST**

**PRELUDE.....**arr. Hayes  
*"Coventry Carol/The First Nowell"*

**\*RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP.....**Tony Peris

Elder: Arise, shine; for your light has come.  
 The glory of God has risen among us.

**PEOPLE: We are awake; we are alive!**  
 Praise God for deliverance and blessings.

Elder: Lift up your eyes to see all around you.  
 Let your hearts rejoice, and be radiant with hope.

**PEOPLE: May justice water the earth like a shower;**  
 let righteousness and peace abound.

Elder: Receive again the promises of the gospel.  
 Participate in the mystery of Jesus Christ.

**PEOPLE: God's ways are being revealed to us today.**  
 Our church proclaims the unsearchable riches  
 of Christ.

**\*WORSHIP HYMN.....**CH, 173  
*"As With Gladness, Men of Old"*

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

**ALL:** Eternal God, because your purposes become clear to us in Jesus Christ, we come with boldness to claim our relationship with you. We are grateful for pioneers in the faith whose stewardship has salvaged for us a way of life rooted in the gospel. The flames you ignited in them have not gone out, in spite of our faithlessness. Your wisdom is still proclaimed in the church, challenging centers of earthly power with the claims of heaven. Today our search for meaning has led us to this place of worship. You are here; we rejoice! We ask these things in the name of Jesus Christ 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

**THE COMMUNITY PROCLAIMS**  
**THE WORD OF GOD**

**OLD TESTAMENT READING.....**Isaiah 60:1-6

**ANTHEM.....**  
*"We Three Kings"*

**NEW TESTAMENT READING .....**Matthew 2:1-12

**SERMON.....**Rev. Brown  
*"Leaving By Another Road"*

**SILENT MEDITATION**

**MORNING PRAYER**

**THE COMMUNITY COMES TOGETHER**  
**AT THE LORD'S TABLE**

**INVITATION TO CHRISTIAN STEWARDSHIP**

**OFFERTORY.....**Macklin  
*"The Quiet Carol"*

**PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

**ALL:** For the joy of giving, we offer the products of our labor for the ministry of this church, in outreach to the world. With concern for those who are poor, oppressed, and needy, we rededicate ourselves as helpers and advocates. Out of devotion to Christ, we commit our best, that the church may bear witness among the principalities and powers of this world. Help us all, O God, to be faithful stewards. Amen.

**\*THE DOXOLOGY .....**CH, 46

**COMMUNION MEDITATION**

**COMMUNION HYMN.....**CH, 154 *(stz. 1-3)*  
*"While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks"*

*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.....**Tony Peris

**PRAYER FOR THE CUP.....**Diane Loftis

**DISTRIBUTION OF THE ELEMENTS**

**WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

**THE COMMUNITY GOES FORTH**  
**TO SERVE GOD IN MISSION**

**INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP**

**HYMN OF INVITATION.....** CH, 67  
*"O God, Our Help in Ages Past"*

*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**

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

**DIACONATE SERVING TODAY**  
 Jennifer Larson, Rosemary Lahy, Donna Nutting, Allison Nutting

**\* 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 December 27, 2009**

Weekly Budget Expenses: \$4,718.00

Received for Budget:	\$ 2,427.00
Building Fund:	75.00
Christmas Offering:	150.00
Preschool Taxes:	1,272.61
South Africa:	150.00
Other: (Coffee/Donuts, Initial)	14.32
<b>TOTAL.....</b>	<b>\$ 4,100.61</b>

~January 3, 2010 ~

**IN NEED OF PRAYER**

Price Family, Lauren Forbes, Glen Emery, Jean Benson, Pauline Moseberth, Linda Powers, Martha Whitlow, Brenda Lewis, Anne Preslar, Kristen Muhlenbeck, Danny Black, Lesa Myles, Kyle Baker, John Milam, Norman Dickens, Emily Gray Metz, Maud Hemby, Nathan Brown Family, Quimby Family, Kitty Buchanan, Sue Gatling, Barbara Barnhart, Murray Brown, Eloise Lowman, Christie Bradley, Masil Jones, Lorraine Shea, Jordan Lahy, Mary Wyatt, Janice Deweese

**SHUT INS**

Dottie Redmon, Rev. Glenn Weaver, Ruth Blackman,  
Dennis Davenport, Roland Thornton, Al Hemby, Esther Daniel

- Today's chancel flowers are given in honor of Pam Brown on her birthday by William, Karen, Kristen and Courtney Brown.
- Administrative Cabinet will meet on Tuesday, January 5<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM.
- There will be a Worship & Wonder Training session at Slash Christian Church in Ashland, VA, January 8-10. If you are interested in attending please see Kitty Baker.
- CWF will hold their General Meeting & Brunch on Saturday, January 9<sup>th</sup> at 10:30 AM in the Fellowship Center.
- A Leadership Retreat is scheduled for Saturday, Jan. 30<sup>th</sup> from 9am-4pm. Look for details in the newsletter and upcoming bulletins.

**THIS WEEK AT WEST SIDE CHRISTIAN**

<b>Today, Jan. 3rd:</b>	9:00 a.m. – Coffee Fellowship 9:45 a.m. – Church School 11:00 a.m. – Worship Service
<b>Mon., Jan. 4th:</b>	5:00 p.m. – Angel Food Orders
<b>Tues., Jan. 5th:</b>	7:00 p.m. – Administrative Cabinet
<b>Wed., Jan. 6th:</b>	9:00 a.m. – Prayer Group 10:00 a.m. – CWF (Rebekah & Sarah) 2:00 p.m. – Angel Food Orders 7:15 p.m. – Choir
<b>Thurs., Jan. 7th:</b>	No Scheduled Church Activities
<b>Fri., Jan. 8th:</b>	No Scheduled Church Activities
<b>Sat., Jan. 9th:</b>	10:30 a.m. – CWF General Meeting & Brunch
<b>Sun., Jan. 10th:</b>	9:00 a.m. – Coffee Fellowship 9:45 a.m. – Church School 11:00 a.m. – Worship Service

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