

## 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.



**"On Being the Church. ....Love"**



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**DISCIPLES OF CHRIST**

Rev. Nathan Brown, Minister  
Becky Barclay, Music Director

**WELCOME**  
**West Side Christian Church**  
 January 31, 2010



**THE COMMUNITY GATHERS TO SERVE GOD**

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

**BRINGING IN THE LIGHT OF CHRIST**

**PRELUDE**.....arr. Leonard  
*"All Creatures of Our God and King"*

**\*RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP** .....Lynne Thomas

**Elder:** Come, people of God, to the One in whom we trust.  
 Praise God who delivers and rescues us.

**PEOPLE:** God is our rock of refuge, our strong fortress.  
 God saves us amid wickedness and cruelty.

**Elder:** Hope in God, who has created you.  
 Open yourself to the one who knows you well.

**PEOPLE:** God accepts us, even when people do not.  
 God affirms us, even when we fail.

**Elder:** Our God gives us tasks to do and strength to do them. God's Word of love is ours to proclaim.

**PEOPLE:** We have come to embrace the mysteries of our faith. We are here to worship the God who empowers us.

**\*WORSHIP HYMN**.....CH. 517  
*"Love Divine, All Loves, Excelling"*

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

**ALL:** God of love, in whose name we have been consecrated for discipleship and service, encounter us in this hour, that we may grow in knowledge and actions. Disturb our certainties so we will be open to new insights. Upset our priorities to make room for faith, hope, and love. Expand our horizons to encompass ideas we have not entertained before. Open our hearts to people we have failed to welcome into our midst. Perfect among us that childlike trust that allows change to transform us in the presence of your love. 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

**CHILD DEDICATIONS**

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

**OLD TESTAMENT READING** (pg. 609).....Jeremiah 1:4- 10  
**SOLO** - Frances Wells.....Peterson  
*"Amazing Love"*

**NEW TESTAMENT READING** (pg. 934).....1 Corinthians 13:1-13  
**SERMON**.....Congregation  
*"On Being the Church.....Love"*

**SILENT MEDITATION**  
**MORNING PRAYER**

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

**INVITATION TO CHRISTIAN STEWARDSHIP**  
**OFFERTORY**.....Becker  
*"Meditation"*

**PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

**ALL:** With awe and wonder before you, O God, we dare to enlist all our efforts toward the realization of your realm. Where there is injustice, we would champion those oppressed and misunderstood. When some feel rejected, we reach out to accept them in Christ's name. May these offerings preach and teach and heal. Amen.

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

**COMMUNION MEDITATION**

**COMMUNION HYMN**.....CH. 383  
*"Savior, Thy Dying Love"*

*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**.....Lynne Thomas

**PRAYER FOR THE CUP**.....Tony Peris

**DISTRIBUTION OF THE ELEMENTS**

**WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

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

**INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP**

**HYMN OF INVITATION**..... CH. 494  
*"They'll Know We Are Christians by Our Love"*  
*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  
*"In Thee Is Gladness"*

**DIACONATE SERVING TODAY**  
 Dudley DeStefano, Cecil Dillon, Kelly Terry, 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 with Rev. Brown.*

**Offering for January 24, 2010**

Weekly Budget Expenses: \$4,718.00

Received for Budget:	\$ 3,353.00
Building Fund:	3516.08
Week of Compassion:	420.00
Mission Trip to South Africa:	485.00
Other: (Coffee/Donuts, Initial)	22.50
<b>TOTAL</b> .....	<b>\$ 7,796.58</b>

## This Week at West Side Christian Church

<b>Today, Jan. 31st:</b>	9:00 a.m. – Coffee Fellowship 9:45 a.m. – Church School 11:00 a.m. – Worship Service 12:30 p.m. – Worship Team Meeting
Mon., Feb. 1st:	5:00 p.m. – Angel Food Orders
Tues., Feb. 2nd:	7:00 p.m. – Administrative Cabinet
Wed., Feb. 3rd:	9:00 a.m. – Prayer Group 10:00 a.m. – CWF (Rebekah & Lydia) 2:00 p.m. – Angel Food Orders 7:15 p.m. – Choir
Thurs., Feb. 4th:	No Scheduled Church Activities
Fri., Feb. 5th:	No Scheduled Church Activities
Sat., Feb. 6th:	9:30 a.m. – District VIII Training – Hampton CC
Sun., Feb. 7th:	9:00 a.m. – Coffee Fellowship 9:45 a.m. – Church School 11:00 a.m. – Worship Service 12:00 p.m. – Sunday Lunch

### ***A SEARCH FOR VOLUNTEERS***

There are some spots still open in the West Side Variety Show on Friday, February 12<sup>th</sup> at 7pm. here in the church.

- NO talent required to enter
- NO on the job training needed
- NO former job experience necessary
- NO recommendations required
- You don't need your husband's approval
- You don't need your wife's approval (well, maybe you do!)



Things you WILL need: -A willingness to enjoy yourself  
-A willingness to allow others to laugh at you  
-A willingness to accept the praise and adulation of your admiring friends after watching your act

Look for a sign up sheet posted on the bulletin board outside the sanctuary doors, or if you prefer to remain anonymous, see Bobby Beal.



~January 31, 2010 ~

- Our deepest sympathy to Wanda Hackler and family on their loss of Larry. He will be greatly missed here at West Side.
- Administrative Cabinet will meet Tuesday, February 2<sup>nd</sup> at 7:00 PM.
- There will be a District VIII training session held on Saturday, February 6<sup>th</sup> at Hampton Christian Church, beginning at 9:30 am. All Elders & Deacons are encouraged to attend.
- Plan to join us next Sunday for lunch in the Fellowship Center following the worship service. All donations will go to the Building Fund. See today's insert for more details.
- West Side will provide winter sheltering and food for the homeless in our area beginning on Sunday evening, March 7<sup>th</sup> through Sunday morning, March 14<sup>th</sup>. Each day, the homeless will be given dinner and warm sleeping arrangements. Approximately 18 volunteers are needed EACH NIGHT. This includes servers, chaperones and kitchen assistants. Volunteer sign-up sheets will be placed in the hallway leading to the Fellowship Center next Sunday. Please reserve some of your valuable time for this worthy cause.
- Thank you to all those who took the time to complete a survey. As a continuation of my research, I would appreciate the opportunity to discuss your experiences as members of West Side Christian Church. Interviews are informal and confidential, can be conducted on the phone or in person, and should last about 20 minutes to an hour. If you are willing to participate, please contact me one of the following ways or simply drop your contact information in the box in the Gathering Area outside the sanctuary. Thank you, Rachel Widener – (757) 763-8184 or email: rwidene1@uncc.edu.

**IN NEED OF PRAYER**

Hackler Family, Edith Ross, Ronnie Thomas, David & Doris Tugwell, Betty Bryan, Norman Dickens, Franklin Family, William Brown Family, Freda Pyles, Betty McCrickard, Lynne Thomas, Price Family, Lauren Forbes, Jean Benson, Pauline Moseberth, Linda Powers, Martha Whitlow, Brenda Lewis, Anne Preslar, Kristen Muhlenbeck, Danny Black, Lesa Myles, Kyle Baker, John Milam, Emily Gray Metz, Maud Hemby, Nathan Brown Family, Quimby Family, Catherine Buchanan, Sue Gatling, Barbara Barnhart, Murray Brown, Eloise Lowman, Christie Bradley, Masil Jones, Lorraine Shea, Jordan Lahy, Mary Wyatt, Janice Deweese

**SHUT INS**

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

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# ***First Sunday Luncheon!***

Sunday, February 7<sup>TH</sup>

Main Course: Fried Chicken

**DONATIONS BENEFIT THE BUILDING FUND**

If you plan to attend, please complete the form below and place into today's offering plate. You may also call the church office by Wednesday, February 3<sup>rd</sup>.

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

# OF ADULTS: \_\_\_\_\_, # AGE 6-12: \_\_\_\_\_, # UNDER AGE 6: \_\_\_\_\_



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# *Child Dedication Service*

Christian Dedication and Blessing for:

*Emily Grace Elizabeth Larson*

*Sarah Aubrey Powers*

*Trice Harrison Redmon*

REV. BROWN:

As a significant part of our gathering to worship God today, we recognize publicly your children as God's gift to you and to the world, to name them as belonging to God's family and to receive them into the care of Christ's Church.

Our example is Jesus who took little children in his arms and blessed them, and said, *"Let the children come to me and do not hinder them, for to such belongs the kingdom of God. Truly, I say to you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God like a child shall not enter it."* (Mark 10:13-16)

In these little ones there lives both history and hope. How high the rewards, how sacred the responsibilities that belong to you parents as you shape the lives of your children, not only for time, but for eternity. In presenting your child here, you are accepting the ministry of Christian parenthood.

Do you promise to pray with and for your child, to share with your child the Bible, to encourage growth in the love of God and neighbor?

**PARENTS: We do.**

REV. BROWN:

Do you promise to do all that you can to lead your child at the proper age to confess faith in Christ?

**PARENTS: We do.**

REV. BROWN:

What is the name you have given this child?

**PARENTS: (Name of Child)**

REV. BROWN:

The name of this child is...

May God's blessing and Christ's companionship be with this child always!

*CONGREGATION PLEASE STAND AS YOU ARE ABLE*

**REV. BROWN:**

As members of the Body of Christ, God's family, it is our sacred obligation and privilege, along with these parents, to enfold these children in our affection and continuing care, to uphold them in good, guide them in truth, forgive them in error, protect them from all that is evil and unjust. Do you promise to love these children as Christ loves you, and to help them and all other children to grow as sons and daughters of God?

**CONGREGATION: We do.**

**REV. BROWN:**

Let us pray ... Great and gracious God, our Eternal Parent, grant us your blessing in this moment. Bless these parents as they carry out the sacred responsibilities of parenthood. Lead them so that these tender feet may learn to walk in ways of faith, truth, justice, joy, service and peace. Give them patience, confidence, good judgment and such a sense of love and joy that they may always enjoy sharing life all along the way. Bless us, your congregation, and make us always helpful in our caring for these dear folk, both parents and children. Make us always ready to learn your lessons through these little ones. Bless, O Lord, these children, with good gifts of affection and your heavenly care. Grant that they may increase as Jesus did, in wisdom and stature, and in divine and human favor. We pray in the strong name of Jesus Christ, our Savior.

**ALL: Amen.**

