



MISSION STATEMENT

- ❖ Bridging – Our church family with our neighbors
 - ❖ Building – Ministries to serve
 - ❖ Becoming – Disciples for Christ.

VISION STATEMENT

We strive to be a church where people are spiritually healed, joy reigns, and the love of God is shared.

IDENTITY STATEMENT

Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

“We are Disciples of Christ, a movement for wholeness in a fragmented world. As part of the one body of Christ, we welcome all to the Lord’s Table as God has welcomed us.”

OFFICE HOURS

Monday through Thursday 9am - 3pm

Eric Seiler, Chairman of the Board
Marion Timbrook, Office Manager
Rob Peterman, Choir Director

Sunday School 9:30am
Worship 11:00am

www.batteryparkchristianchurch.org
bpcc.office@verizon.net



Congregational Meeting

At a called board meeting on August 25, the Official Board voted to recommend the calling of Rev. Jonah Smith-Bartlett to the congregation.

We will have a Congregational meeting on Sunday, September 8, immediately following the worship service to discuss and vote on the calling of a new pastor.



SEPTEMBER

Each week during the year, we “spotlight” a homebound member. During the week, remember to send that member a card, write a note, or make a phone call. Let them know how much they are missed!

9/1 Mr. Bill Gotthardt
7080 Brooks Farm Road, Room 125
Mechanicsville, VA 23111

9/8 Mrs. Betty Land
7300 Forest Ave. #324-A
Henrico, VA 23226

9/15 Mr. Douglas Bobbio
1711 Bellevue Ave., D-717
Richmond, VA 23227

9/22 Mrs. Jean Carr
7080 Brooks Farm Road #210
Mechanicsville, VA 23111

9/29 Mr. Bill Gotthardt
7080 Brooks Farm Road, Room 125
Mechanicsville, VA 23111

There are several of our members who aren't able to attend on a regular basis and who are not on this list, but are in our thoughts and prayers. A card or a phone call would mean so much.

If you have been unable to come to church and want to be added to our homebound list, please let the church office (804-266-3973) or the Elders know. We miss and pray for everyone who is unable to make it to church.

September Birthdays

September's birthstone is the **sapphire**—a precious gemstone of that, according to ancient lore, instilled wisdom, loyalty and nobility.

Maxine Walker	3
Jimmy Adams	10
Frances Lucas	13
Brett Butler	26
Jesse Garr	29



If anyone is inclined not to believe in God, all they need to do is to look at His creation. Even the stones of the earth and the pearls of the ocean are unique and beautiful, as are each of you. Thank you God.

If you find errors, please notify the church office. Thank you.

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Worship Flowers

Every Sunday our worship area is graced with fresh flowers reminding us of our new life in Christ. These are underwritten by members and friends of the church each week; the cost is only \$37 and you may carry them home or ask that they be delivered to someone who has been ill or is homebound. We have a chart for 2019 where anyone wanting to donate the flowers for a certain week can sign up to do so. The chart is in the hallway outside the church office. You may also call or email the office to sign up. We are grateful for these gifts and for the givers.



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Thank You Notes

*Thank you all for your love and support during my brother's illness and passing.
Melissa Seiler and family*

The members of Battery Park are the best friends ever! Skip and I want to thank you for the prayers, caring thoughts, calls, cards, and gifts. We have each had surgery recently but are now doing well. It's good to be on the road to recovery! Patsy Stockdon

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Children's Books

The Care-A-Van is asking for donations of children's books. A box is in the hallway outside the sanctuary for these items.

Church Profiles

Marion Timbrook, Office Manager



I was born in Richmond, VA to Margaret and Merle Smith and grew up on their farm in Mechanicsville, VA. I attended VA Tech in Blacksburg, where I received a BS in Horticulture.

Afterwards, I married and moved to my family farm in King William County where I lived for over 30 years. I worked for the Virginia Department of Agriculture for 6 years, Ownby Auction & Realty for 13 years, and as Church Secretary for Sharon Baptist Church for 11 years. I also operated a pick-your-own berry farm

for 5 years. While attending Sharon Baptist Church, my many activities included teaching youth and children's Sunday School, as well as, Vacation Bible School and leading Women's Discipleship classes. After my second

husband, Larry, passed away, I returned to school and studied medical records coding. I am grateful to be a two-time breast cancer survivor and have now been cancer-free for 7 years. I currently live in Mechanicsville with my dog,

Maddie. I have one son, Tyler Guyton, who serves in the U.S. Air Force, and two grandchildren, Jaxon (5) and Hadley (3). I love to visit them in Fort Walton Beach, FL whenever I can. Other activities I enjoy are landscaping my home, traveling, antiques, and nature watching.



Elder Communion Schedule

	<u>Loaf</u>	<u>Cup</u>
Sept. 1	Eric Seiler	George Nuckolls
Sept. 8	Melissa Seiler	A.T. Scruggs
Sept. 15	George Nuckolls	Richard Garrett
Sept. 22	A.T. Scruggs	Tim Williams
Sept. 29	Richard Garrett	Patsy Stockdon

Next Elders' meeting October 16 at 7:00 pm

In the absence of a minister, the elders will be making visits to homebound members.

Week of Compassion

As the relief, refugee, and development mission fund of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), Week of Compassion works with partners to alleviate suffering throughout the world. Although we put special emphasis on donations during the month of February, you can give any time by writing a check and putting Week of Compassion on the notation line. Here is a letter from the director letting us know how our donations are helping with the immigration crisis at the southern U.S. border.

...for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.

Dear Church,

I am currently traveling, visiting partners in South America, and I heard the most recent news of cruelty and abuse at the U.S./Mexico border. I was surrounded by our local partners when I saw the heartbreaking image of Óscar Alberto Martínez Ramírez and his young daughter, Angie Valeria. The two of them drowned trying to swim across the Rio Grande and cross into the United States.

These images reminded me of many individuals I met on a recent visit to the southern border in Texas, where young families and children from Guatemala, Honduras, El Salvador and other countries come looking for safety. When I was in Phoenix this past May, I saw young families like them being dropped off by Immigration Officials at a Disciples church; the church provides shelter, food and blankets while families await their processing.

The father and daughter who died made that terrible journey believing our country to be a safe place; a second chance.

Like many of you, I am heartbroken. I'm praying about the best ways to help; and the most meaningful ways for the church to provide presence in a place of so much suffering.

As the relief, refugee, and development mission fund of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), Week of Compassion works with partners to alleviate suffering throughout the world. This has been our mission for 75 years, since our church first moved to support refugees displaced by war and violence. Our vision remains the same as well: a world where God's people transform suffering into hope.

The immigration crisis is deeply complex. There is no easy way to address the overwhelming need that we see in our own backyard. However, as people of faith, we respond with love and compassion--working towards long-term solutions for those in great need.

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Here's how.

For the last several years, Week of Compassion has been responsive to the border crisis through partners such as Church World Service; Southwest Good Samaritan Ministries; Disciples Refugee and Immigration Ministries; and the Oscar Romero Center in San Diego and Tijuana. These partners work to provide safe places for migrants. They provide shelter, meet basic needs, and provide legal counsel and advocacy services. These ministries of our wider church create safe havens for those who might otherwise find themselves in great danger. More recently, our Keep Families and Children Together fund has been supporting Disciples families-- separated by current immigration policies-- by providing emergency supplies and support to meet their needs in a very difficult time.

Beyond meeting those urgent needs, we are coordinating and working with partners towards a more comprehensive, integrated approach to the crisis. Through these partnerships, immigrants seeking asylum will have safe places to stay while their requests are processed. They will be made aware of their rights and will have access to available resources to ensure a more humane experience.

The crisis at our border is not happening in a vacuum. A wide range of issues in Central America--from gang violence to economic crisis to climate change-- drive this wave of mass migration. So, our response must be multi-faceted. In addition to treating immigrants humanely, our ongoing work in that part of the world helps to reduce migration. When we support sustainable development projects, we enable communities to better provide for their own needs. This creates more opportunity for young adults who might otherwise come north. More opportunities mean families stay together. More resources stay within the community, making the community even stronger. Meaning that fewer make the dangerous journey across the desert.

When you support Week of Compassion, you support the work of our wider church at the border and in Central America, where we work to make life more sustainable. In this, we truly become the Body of Christ. Together, we answer the call to greet the stranger as though they were Jesus himself.

It is clear, as we see images and hear reports from the border, that our church is still called to respond to great suffering. This is not new; this is now. Now, with great urgency, we bring relief to these places of crossing over. We give hope to the stranger; to the one in need of food, clothing and shelter; to the child seeking sanctuary. Because Jesus reminds us, again, that this is what it means to be a disciple.

As we continue to pray for those suffering in this crisis, our compassion compels us to action. I'm grateful for the many ways in which Disciples are already opening their doors, opening their hearts, and sharing generously to enable transformative ministry. With your continued support, we can provide the sanctuary that so many believe they will find one day.



Peace,
Rev. Vy Nguyen
Executive Director

