



The Visitor

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Wednesday, May 14, 2008

VINE STREET CHRISTIAN CHURCH • 4101 HARDING ROAD • NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE 37205 • 615-269-5614 • WWW.VINESTREET.ORG
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Words from Thomas

Thomas Kleinert

Kenneth Teegarden was General Minister and President of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) from 1973-1985. When asked to describe who we are, he wrote,

“The Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) proclaims Jesus as Lord, draws its inspiration from Scripture and the Holy Spirit, witnesses and serves among the whole human family, acknowledges that Christian unity and Christian mission are inseparable, and claims as its particular mission the quest for the reunion of the Body of Christ, celebrating weekly around the Lord’s Table the life, death, resurrection and continuing presence of its Lord.”

As members of the Christian Church,
We confess that Jesus is the Christ,
the Son of the living God,
and proclaim him Lord and Savior of the world
In Christ’s name and by his grace
we accept our mission of witness
and service to all people.
We rejoice in God,
maker of heaven and earth,
and in God’s covenant of love
which binds us to God and to one another.
Through baptism into Christ
we enter into newness of life
and are made one with the whole people of God.
In the communion of the Holy Spirit
we are joined together in discipleship
and in obedience to Christ.
At the Table of the Lord
we celebrate with thanksgiving
the saving acts and presence of Christ.
Within the universal church
we receive the gift of ministry
and the light of scripture.
In the bonds of Christian faith
we yield ourselves to God
that we may serve the One
whose kingdom has no end.
Blessing, glory, and honor
be to God forever. Amen.

That’s pretty comprehensive for a one-sentence statement.

Sharon Watkins, our current General Minister and President asked a group of fellow leaders the same question, “Who are we?” Together they responded, inviting us to reflect on their [statement of Disciples identity](#),

“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 Table as God has welcomed us.”

I find it fascinating how different the two responses are in length and character, and yet how much they are same. Take some time today or later this week and compare them, listen to what is being said, and ask yourself what your statement of Disciples identity would be.

Answering this question with particular attention to Vine Street is an important part of *The Journey*. We want to be able to say together (and succinctly) who we are, and who God wants us to become.

As we work together on our response and pray together over the course of the summer (for more [information about the Summer of Prayer](#), see last week’s Visitor), I want to explore a somewhat familiar document that is both an expression of Disciples identity and a text that continues to shape our identity.

Every Sunday from Easter to Pentecost we affirmed our faith in worship reciting the words of *A Disciples Affirmation*, printed

above and in our hymnal at #355. At the beginning of the summer, starting on June 1, I will preach a series of sermons based on that affirmation. I look at it as an unclaimed treasure that will enrich our conversations and prayers about identity and mission, and help us each to know and state with greater clarity what it is we live by.

Along Vine Street

Erin Sullivan’s dad died on May 7. Visitation was Sunday, May 11, at Woodlawn Funeral Home. The funeral was held today at Crieveewood Baptist Church.

Laura Crenshaw’s father, **Alfred Schrader** died on Tuesday, May 6 in Trenton, TN. The funeral was on Friday, May 9.

Deb Steeves’s aunt, **Pat Bapcock**, passed away on May 4th. She had lung cancer that had metastasized to her brain.

Ruth Skinner has pneumonia; she is recovering and made it to church yesterday.

Betty and Shelton Pilkinton celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary on May 6th.

Vine Street is on **The Journey** – Who are we and who does God want us to become? Where are we and where does God want us to go? What is the future into which God wants us to live?

Please deliver by May 7

Dated Church Material



4101 HARDING ROAD ■ NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE 37205
PH: 615.269.5614 ■ FAX: 615.297.0613 ■ WWW.VINESTREET.ORG



Prime Timers Next Outing

The Prime Timers will be going to Cheekwood on May 23rd for lunch in the Pineapple room. There is to be a flower show, featuring floral designs by five garden clubs, in Botanic Hall, which will be fun and informative to see. There is a gate fee of \$8.00 but you may use the free gate pass which was in the mail Wednesday, May 8, or collect them from your neighbors. Those who are able, may tour the beautiful grounds or see the art exhibit in the mansion. Please call Ruth if you would like to join us, so she can make reservations for lunch. 352-6151

Coffee Hour in the Reception Area

Please join us for coffee in the reception area during the months of June and July. Coffee, juice, and a few snacks will be served from 9:15—10:45. Stop by between early service and Sunday School or Sunday school and church to grab a quick “pick me up” and visit with friends!

NOTES FROM THE CHOIR ROOM

Julia Callaway

Children's Choir member Matthew Jafari received special recognition in worship Sunday when Andra presented him with his choir copy of the CHALICE HYMNAL. Matthew will be moving up to T.E.A.M (youth choir) in the fall. Congratulations Matthew!

We are proud of all our young musicians at VSCC and appreciate them sharing their musical gifts in worship. Next Sunday graduating senior Sarah "Pickles" Steeves (Harpeth Hall) will provide viola meditation music during communion. Vocalist Johanna Keith (Nashville School of the Arts Junior) will also present a special gift of music.

Chancel Choir will continue weekly rehearsals through May. Please check the Google Calendar for our summer schedule. May 29 rehearsal will be at 206 Leake Avenue.

Who Graduated?

We won't know unless you tell us! Please send graduation information including name, address, degree, institution and future plans to hope@vinestreet.org. Our graduates will be recognized during the 10:45 service on Sunday, May 18th.



Summer Office Hours

We are not yet sure when Denise will be required to take leave. At this point, our guess is the last week of May or first week of June. Once she is out, our summer office hours will be from 9:00 a.m. through noon each week day. While Denise is on leave, The Visitor will not be published, so please watch your e-mail for important information.

The office is closed on May 26th for Memorial Day.

Deacons and Elders

Please view the [Online Serving schedule](#) for 2008.

You can view the church Calendar on our website at www.vinestreet.org.

Mission ~~im~~Possible!

Young Disciples Mission Camp

(for children completing 3rd, 4th, 5th or 6th grade)

Vine Street Christian Church

Monday-Friday

June 2nd—6th

9:00a.m.-4:00 p.m.

\$60 for the week

(\$50 if registered by May 15)

Mission ~~im~~Possible! is an opportunity to build relationships and our faith while we serve the community with a new heart.

Young Disciples Mission Camp will include study, recreation, service and worship. Nothing is impossible when we work together to serve God.

Be part of the team

that does the

~~im~~Possible!

Interested?

[Get Details and Sign Up Forms](#)

This Week at Vine Street

Wednesday—May 14

5:30 p.m. Picnic on the Playground

Thursday—May 15

5:00 p.m. Weight Watchers

7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir

Friday—May 16

Second Journey Weekend with George Bullard through the 18th

Saturday—May 17

9:00 a.m. Journey Workshop

Sunday—May 18

8:30 a.m. Worship in the Chapel

9:30 a.m. Sunday School

10:45 a.m. Worship in the Sanctuary

12:00 p.m. Graduation Celebration

12:30 p.m. Journey Workshop

1:30 p.m. Julia & Marcina's Studio Recital

Monday—May 19

7:00 p.m. Official Board Meeting

Wednesday—May 21

5:30 p.m. Vespers

6:00 p.m. Joyful Noise

Thursday—May 22

5:00 p.m. Weight Watchers

7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir

Sunday—May 25

8:30 a.m. Worship in the Chapel

9:30 a.m. Sunday School

10:45 a.m. Worship in the Sanctuary

12:00 p.m. Join Vine Street Members for Coffee in the Fellowship Hall

Monday—May 26 - Office Closed