



WESTSIDE REFORMED CHURCH

Westside Reformed Church is a URC church plant in Cincinnati, Ohio. Zelteneich Reformed Church (New Holland, PA), in cooperation with Classis Eastern U.S., launched our mission work in July 2013, so we are now approaching our fifth anniversary. We are the only NAPARC congregation in Cincinnati's "westside." The majority of our members live in the area, although some of our members drive a long distance to worship with us. Only three of us were raised in the Dutch Reformed tradition. The rest are from various Christian and non-Christian backgrounds.

OUR PASTOR

Rev. Zac Wyse is our pastor and church planter. He and his wife, KC, are natives of Ohio. They have two children, Dominic (2 y.o.) and Cora (5 mo.). Before attending seminary, Zac spent five years in Europe working with Christian fellowships on college campuses, where he led Bible studies and guided student outreach. He became committed to Reformed theology during that formative time.



OUR METHODS

Our members have been refreshed to be part of a church that's not seeking to be "cool," chasing the latest Christian fad, but is instead content to be faithful, historic, and Reformed. Since our inception, we've been committed to the old paths: Word & Sacrament, Law & Gospel, two services, catechesis, psalm-singing, liturgical forms, family worship, elder visits, and so forth. These practices don't please everyone, but our members celebrate them, and we have found that the most broken and humble sinners that visit our church readily embrace them and find the comfort of Christ therein.

UPDATES ON THE WORK

We have experienced a great deal of growth and maturation in the last eighteen months, for which we give the Lord thanks. Our membership has doubled, increasing from 25 souls to over 50. Some of our new members are brand new to the Reformed tradition, while others sought us out for the sake of our commitments. We are also hovering at financial self-sufficiency, whereas we were meeting just over 50% of our general budget at the turn of 2017. With this growth, we rejoice that we have also been called to provide more frequent care for souls: mercy needs, membership preparations, profession of faith, and various opportunities to love one another. Having an associate elder and two associate deacons, who (like our pastor) are members of the Zelteneich Council but live in Cincinnati, has been a great blessing to our pastor and congregation. We are currently in a season

of discernment, assessing whether the Lord may be calling us to organize. We had a sermon series on the three offices and connectional/presbyterial governance. We have also invited our communicant members to submit the names of men that may be called to serve as officers. Please, pray for the Lord's wisdom and guidance! Although our financial situation has improved, we still welcome financial gifts. Church plants are especially volatile: members come and go with greater ease, we may need to move to a new place of worship in an instant, and there are frequent unforeseen expenses. That said, we certainly understand that it may be wise for some churches to direct their support to other churches and church plants. Thank you for your continued prayers and encouragement. May the Lord establish and organize this mission work in due time. May He grant the growth!