



CHRIST  
THE REDEEMER  
—PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH—

SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME  
October 5, 2025

## Welcome to CHRIST THE REDEEMER...

We're glad you've joined us. Whether you have followed Jesus your whole life or you can't remember the last time you stepped foot in a church, we want you to feel welcome to come as you are and worship with our church family. If you have any questions about our church or where to find something, please don't hesitate to ask. We're excited about what God is doing among us as we seek to live, grow and serve as followers of Jesus in Portland and in our surrounding neighborhoods. So, welcome to CTR, we'd love to have you as part of our family.

During our service, our nursery is open for babies who are crawlers through 3-year-olds. If you need help finding the nursery area, please ask any of our greeters!

Children's Church is in session. After the blessing each week, children age 4 – 1<sup>st</sup> grade are welcome to go to Children's Church. They will re-join their families after the sermon.

→ You may use this QR code to link to the lyrics in our worship service today.



### THE RHYTHM OF OUR WORSHIP

On the road to Emmaus (Luke 24), when Jesus' disciples found themselves troubled and confused, Jesus met them along the way. When they confessed their troubles and doubts to Him, His words and presence began to change them. He unfolded God's Word to them, pointing to His own person and work. He dined with them, giving thanks and breaking bread. The disciples recognized their Lord's presence with them and hurried to tell others the good news.

In the Emmaus story, we recognize the pattern of historic Christian worship as it began to take shape. Our worship liturgy at Christ the Redeemer moves through a specific rhythm: God **SUMMONS** us as His people, God **SANCTIFIES** us to Himself, God **SPEAKS** to us in His Word, God **STRENGTHENS** us at His table, and God **SENDS** us into the world to share His grace.

The emphasis throughout our worship is upon God's action and our appropriate response. In worship, we rehearse the gospel message of Jesus' death and resurrection and are caught up into the mission of the Triune God. The flow of our liturgy aims at drawing us further into the life of the Trinity as children of God and then impelling us outward into our world.

*-adapted from City Church Philadelphia Guide to Our Worship*

## G O D S U M M O N S

[ P R A I S E ]

### C A L L T O W O R S H I P

[L] As we come together, we are gathered by a God who amazes and astounds.

[P] **We are gathered to experience again God's power and healing.**

[L] We are gathered by God who has stepped into our reality as a human being, Jesus Christ.

[P] **And we are gathered by God who reshapes our reality and what it means for us to be human.**

[All] **We are gathered in the name of God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.**

### S O N G

TO GOD BE THE GLORY

## G O D S A N C T I F I E S

[ R E N E W A L ]

### C O N F E S S I O N O F S I N

[All] **Almighty God, too often we settle for brokenness and sin in our lives.  
Rather than offering forgiveness, we hold onto offense.  
Rather than pursuing justice, we turn away.  
Rather than offering mercy, we continue in judgment.  
Gracious God, these are not the ways of your kingdom.  
Make us hunger and thirst for righteousness that we might see our need for Jesus.  
Being nourished by his goodness, help us live out God's ways on earth.**

TIME OF SILENT REFLECTION AND CONFESSION

WORDS OF COMFORT AND ASSURANCE OF PARDON

[L] Jesus says:

“Blessed are you who are poor, for yours is the kingdom of God.”

“Blessed are you who are hungry now, for you shall be satisfied.”

“Blessed are you who weep now, for you shall laugh.”

Blessed are you who know you’re not enough, for God’s grace is sufficient for you.

Your sins are forgiven, go in peace as God’s people.

[P] **Thanks be to God!**

SONG

THERE IS A FOUNTAIN

LIFE OF THE PEOPLE

[ANNOUNCEMENTS]

NEW TO CTR? Welcome! If you would like to connect, learn more about our church or subscribe to our weekly announcement email, please use this QR code.



THE PEACE OF GOD

and THE BLESSING OF THE CHILDREN

[L] May the peace of the Lord be always with you.

[P] **And also with you.**

[L] People of God, what is our prayer for these and all our children?

[All] **May the Lord be with you.**

[Children] **And also with you.**

*After the blessing each week, children aged 4 – 1<sup>st</sup> grade are welcome to go to Children’s Church downstairs in Fellowship Hall. They will re-join their families after the sermon.*

SONG

JESUS STRONG AND KIND

**G O D   S P E A K S**

[ W O R D ]

S C R I P T U R E

Luke 6:17-26 ESV

Read by Sarah Cohen

*Jesus Ministers to a Great Multitude*

<sup>17</sup> And he came down with them and stood on a level place, with a great crowd of his disciples and a great multitude of people from all Judea and Jerusalem and the seacoast of Tyre and Sidon, <sup>18</sup> who came to hear him and to be healed of their diseases. And those who were troubled with unclean spirits were cured. <sup>19</sup> And all the crowd sought to touch him, for power came out from him and healed them all.

*The Beatitudes*

<sup>20</sup> And he lifted up his eyes on his disciples, and said:

“Blessed are you who are poor, for yours is the kingdom of God.

<sup>21</sup> “Blessed are you who are hungry now, for you shall be satisfied.

“Blessed are you who weep now, for you shall laugh.

<sup>22</sup> “Blessed are you when people hate you and when they exclude you and revile you and spurn your name as evil, on account of the Son of Man! <sup>23</sup> Rejoice in that day, and leap for joy, for behold, your reward is great in heaven; for so their fathers did to the prophets.

*Jesus Pronounces Woes*

<sup>24</sup> “But woe to you who are rich, for you have received your consolation.

<sup>25</sup> “Woe to you who are full now, for you shall be hungry.

“Woe to you who laugh now, for you shall mourn and weep.

<sup>26</sup> “Woe to you, when all people speak well of you, for so their fathers did to the false prophets.

[L] The grass withers and the flower fades,  
but the Word of God stands forever.

Isaiah 40:8

The Word of the Lord.

[P] **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon Series:

THE GOSPEL OF LUKE: SEEING JESUS

Sermon:

THE UPSIDE-DOWN KINGDOM

[SERMON ON THE PLAIN, PART 1]

Rev. Sean J.S. Roberts

*Lead Pastor*

## AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

## Nicene Creed

[L] Christian, what is it that we believe?

[P] **We believe in one God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible.**

**And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father; by whom all things were made; who for us and for our salvation came down from heaven, and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary, and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate; He suffered and was buried; and the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures, and ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father; and He shall come again, with glory, to judge both the living and the dead; whose kingdom shall have no end.**

**And we believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son; who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified; who spoke by the prophets; and we believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church; we acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins; and we look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

## PRAYER OF THE PEOPLE

Led by Peter Kouba

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be your name.

Your kingdom come; your will be done on earth, as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread.

And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.

And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil:

For yours is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

**G O D   S T R E N G T H E N S**

[ T A B L E ]

## C E L E B R A T I N G   H O L Y   C O M M U N I O N

*A Word about Communion: Communion is the family meal of Christians. Baptized believers actively looking to Jesus as their hope for salvation are warmly invited to share in this meal with us as our brothers and sisters.*

- *Please approach the servers by coming up the middle aisle and returning to your seat via the outside aisles.*
- *Once you receive the bread and wine/juice, please hold on to it as you return to your seat. We will partake together as one body after everyone has received the elements.*
- *Children and those who are not partaking are also welcome to approach the servers for a prayer or word of God's blessing. We ask that you fold your hands as you approach so the server is aware.*
- *Please dispose of your communion cups and any other trash in the wastebasket located at the back of the sanctuary or the one near the exit at the front of the sanctuary as you leave today. Thank you!*

## S O N G

MESSENGER DOXOLOGY #1

## W O R D S   O F   I N V I T A T I O N   &amp;   I N S T I T U T I O N

## P R A Y E R   O F   T H A N K S G I V I N G

## P A R T A K I N G   O F   T H E   E L E M E N T S

## S O N G

YET NOT I BUT THROUGH CHRIST IN ME



## PRAYERS OF REFLECTION

### PRAYER FOR THOSE SEARCHING FOR TRUTH

Lord Jesus, you claim to be the Way, the Truth and the Life. If what you claim is true, please guide me, teach me, and open to me the reality of who you are. Grant that I might be undaunted by the cost of following you as I consider the reasons for doing so. Give me an understanding for you that is coherent, convincing, and that leads to the life that you promise. Amen.

### PRAYER OF BELIEF

Lord Jesus, I admit that I am weaker and more sinful than I ever before believed, but through you, I am more loved and accepted than I ever dared to hope. I thank you for paying my debt, bearing my punishment on the cross and offering forgiveness and new life. Knowing that you have been raised from the dead, I turn from my sins and receive you as my Savior. Amen.

### PRAYER FOR THOSE STRUGGLING WITH SIN

Lord Jesus, grant that I may see in you the fulfillment of all my needs and may turn from every false satisfaction to feed on you, the true and living bread. Enable me to lay aside the sin that clings so closely, and run with perseverance the race set before me, looking only to you, the author and finisher of my faith. Amen.

### PRAYER OF COMMITMENT

Lord Jesus, you have called us to follow you in baptism and in a life of committed discipleship in your church. Grant that I may take the necessary steps to be one with your people and live in the fullness of your Spirit. Amen.

## G O D   S E N D S

[MISSION]

R E S P O N S E S   O F   J O Y

## O F F E R I N G   O U R   L I V E S   A N D R E S O U R C E S

[our tithes and offerings]



If you would like to give online, please use this QR code:  
This takes you to our online giving portal.

## SONG

ALL HAIL THE POWER OF JESUS' NAME

## B E N E D I C T I O N   a n d   S E N D I N G

[L]     May you be made strong with all the strength that comes from his glorious power,  
so that you may have all endurance and patience, joyfully giving thanks to the  
Father, who has enabled you to share in the inheritance of the saints in the light.

Go as beloved children of the Father  
Go as ambassadors of the reign of Christ the King  
Go filled with the gifts of the Holy Spirit to a world crying out for good news

[P]     **Thanks be to God.**

# HIGHLIGHTS

October 5, 2025

NEW TO CTR? Welcome! If you would like to connect, learn more about our church or subscribe to our weekly announcement email, please use this QR code.



## 1 ON THE CALENDAR

### CHRISTIAN FORMATION CLASSES

*SUNDAYS, SEPT 7 – NOV 9 | 9:00 AM | Lower Level Nursery Building*

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This fall we're gathering for a new season of Christian Formation—opportunities for every age to grow in God's Word and in community.

#### **Adult & Teen Class**

*Knowing God: Intro to Theology*

You don't need a seminary degree to study theology—just a willingness to know God better. This class is for ordinary Christians who want their faith to be deep, steady, and joy-filled. Together we'll walk through the core truths of the faith—God's character, his Word, his purposes, his promises, and his saving work through Jesus Christ. Whether you're a lifelong Christian, new to church, or just curious, this class will help you grow in knowledge, joy, confidence, and devotion.

#### **CTRKids Classes**

- **Ram Island Class:** Potty-Trained – PreK
- **Bug Light Class:** Kindergarten – 1st Grade
- **Two Lights Class:** 2nd – 4th Grade
- **Headlight Class:** 5th Grade +

Come ready to grow in faith and fellowship together this fall!

## INQUIRERS' CLASSES (FALL)

*SUNDAYS, SEPT 7 – NOV 9 | 9:00 AM | Fellowship Hall*

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Interested in learning more about CTR? Considering joining our church as a member? Come to our Inquirers' Class! This is a great opportunity to hear about our heart and our history as a church, to interact with our leaders and staff, to meet other newcomers, and to ask your questions about what we do and why we do it.

There's no obligation to join CTR if you come to the class. However, if you would like to become a member, the Inquirers' Class is a prerequisite.

**Questions?** Contact Pastor Alden Groves at [agroves@ctrportland.org](mailto:agroves@ctrportland.org) or 215.704.0132.

## WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

*MONDAYS – 6:00 PM | 29 Lilac lane, New Gloucester*

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Our fall Women's Bible Study has begun. Supper will be provided as we gather each week. Together we'll walk through 1 Samuel using *At His Feet Studies*—a rich and accessible guide to help us grow in God's Word and encourage one another in faith.

**Questions?** Contact Laura Wiersma at [lwiersma@ctrportland.org](mailto:lwiersma@ctrportland.org) or 603.566.7746.

## MEN'S DROP-IN

*TUESDAY, OCT 7 – 5:00-6:00 PM | Mast Landing, Westbrook*

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Our next Men's Drop-In is coming up on **Tuesday, October 7 at 5 PM** at Mast Landing Brewing (920 Main Street, Westbrook). This is a relaxed chance to hang out, catch up, and enjoy some time together. No agenda—just good company. Swing by when you can and invite a friend to join!

## PARENTS OF ADULT CHILDREN FELLOWSHIP

*WEDNESDAY, OCT 8 | 6:30 PM | NDCC, Fellowship Hall*

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Parenting doesn't end when our kids become adults—it simply changes. On Wednesday, October 8 at 6:30 PM, we invite parents of adult children to gather for a meaningful evening of fellowship and prayer.

This will be a space to lift one another up and seek God's wisdom together as we navigate the unique joys and challenges of this stage of life. Join us for encouragement, connection, and support along the journey.

**Questions?** Contact Laura Wiersma at [lwiersma@ctrportland.org](mailto:lwiersma@ctrportland.org) or 603.566.7746.

## OCTOBER MOVIE NIGHT

*FRIDAY, OCT 24 | 7:30 PM | 536 River Road, Bowdoinham*

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Movie for this month: GASLIGHT [1944]

Come discover where the term “gaslight” originated as we gather for this month's movie night. We'll be watching *Gaslight* (1944), enjoying the warmth of a cozy fire, and maybe even questioning our own reality—on **Friday, October 24 at 7:30 PM**.

Hosted by Matthew & Emma Holloway, 536 River Road, Bowdoinham.

## BOOKS & BUBBLY

*WEDNESDAY, OCT 29 | 7:00 PM | 64 Brook Road, Portland*

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Ladies, join us for our next Books & Bubbly hosted by Claire Roberts. This month we'll be diving into David Baldacci's *A Stranger in Time*—a story of history, mystery, and suspense, exploring the choices people make when faced with extraordinary circumstances.

Whether you've read every page or just started, come enjoy thoughtful conversation, good company, and light refreshments. Bring a friend and join us for a relaxed evening together!

**Questions?** Contact Claire Roberts at [clerkus@gmail.com](mailto:clerkus@gmail.com) or 956.270.2565.

## Mark Your Calendars:

Sunday, Nov. 16 – **10 AM Worship Service** @ 61 Neal Street – Our move to Neal Street will be official. Please plan to stay after the service for a **Celebration Lunch!**

Sunday, Dec. 14 – **11:45 AM – Annual Congregational Meeting**

Sunday, Dec. 21 – **7:30 PM – Longest Night Service**

Wednesday, Dec. 24 – **Christmas Eve Candlelight Lessons & Carols Service**

## COMMUNITY GROUPS

*Belong. Lean in. Launch out.*

Whether you're brand new to CTR or have been here for years, **community groups are for you!**

These smaller gatherings meet regularly in homes throughout Greater Portland. Together we:

- Form friendships
- Share meals
- Pray for and engage one another throughout the week
- Encourage one another to live on mission in our everyday contexts

### **Why join a group?**

Community groups are the primary way we care for and grow with one another at CTR. No matter your age, stage, or point in your faith journey, you'll find a place to belong, be challenged, and grow as a disciple of Jesus.

We'll learn to keep asking each other: *Where has Christ placed you to serve him this time tomorrow?*

For any questions or concerns, email: [amckrell@ctrportland.org](mailto:amckrell@ctrportland.org).

### **New to CTR or to community groups?**

We would love for you to join us!

Scan the QR code to sign up or email [amckrell@ctrportland.org](mailto:amckrell@ctrportland.org).





# DEEP ROOTS CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

As part of our **Deep Roots Capital Campaign**, we've invited everyone in our community to prayerfully consider how they can support the next chapter of our church's life together.

If you would prefer to make a pledge online, please visit our **online pledge form**—and feel free to share the link with friends, family, or others in your circle who believe in the mission of our church.

Every gift, every conversation, and every step of faith helps us put down deep roots for generations to come.



TO PLEDGE  
ONLINE

**CTR's New Home**  
61 Neal Street, Portland, Maine

OUR FIRST SERVICE in OUR NEW HOME will be  
**NOVEMBER 16 @ 10 AM!**

# SERVE...

At CTR, we believe that part of what makes the church a beautiful place is that it draws people with various passions and gifts into one body. Below are some opportunities to use your passions and gifts to serve one another and our local community.

CHILDREN’S MINISTRIES .....Abby Reid  
Phone: 404.723.4448  
E-mail: areid@ctrportland.org

GREETER MINISTRY ..... Abby Reid  
Phone: 404.723.4448  
E-mail: areid@ctrportland.org

MEALS MINISTRY ..... Tammy Locke  
Phone: 207.671.0936  
E-mail: tam74maine@gmail.com

MISSIONS COORDINATOR.....Kathi Favre  
Phone: 207.298.2089  
E-mail: klfavre@gmail.com

MUSIC..... Kendra Hollen  
Phone: 207.272.4104  
E-mail: khollen@ctrportland.org

SET-UP ..... EJ Kruse  
Phone: 814-392-4810  
E-mail: ejkruse89@gmail.com

SPECIAL EVENTS.....Claire Roberts  
Phone: 956.270.2565  
E-mail: clerkus@gmail.com



# How Do I Get and Stay Connected at CTR?

*At CTR we long for clear communication and deep bonds. We are excited that you're interested in being more connected and involved. The following is a list of our communication channels and their purpose in the life of our body:*

## 1. EMAIL NEWSLETTER (*Keeping in Touch*)

**This is the primary vehicle** by which we communicate regarding the life of our church. Most weeks you will receive an email with announcements and upcoming events. From time to time, our elders will also use this vehicle for church-wide or members only correspondence. **NOTE:** *If you are not regularly checking your email from CTR, it will be difficult to feel and be connected in the life of our church.* [Use this QR code to sign up for the email.]



## 2. CTR APP & TEXT MESSAGES

**The CTR App** is designed to help those in our church interact with each other. It is largely crowd sourced and includes information on informal meetups, prayer requests, live and past sermons/services, different hobby groups, ways to give, etc. [See page 16 to download the App.]

**Text Messages** are sent exclusively as reminders about events in the days/hours immediately beforehand.

## 3. SUNDAY MORNINGS

Sunday mornings employ several communication methods, including written **announcements in our Order of Worship**, verbally highlighted **announcements**, and (new) **projected announcements** running before and after the service. Sunday Morning announcements are focused on pointing people to events and ministries that help them explore or integrate more fully into the life of our church. Given the diverse backgrounds and circumstances of those attending Sunday Morning Worship, only on rare and exceptional occasions will these vehicles be used by leadership for information that is primarily member focused.

## 4. CTR WEBSITE & SOCIAL MEDIA

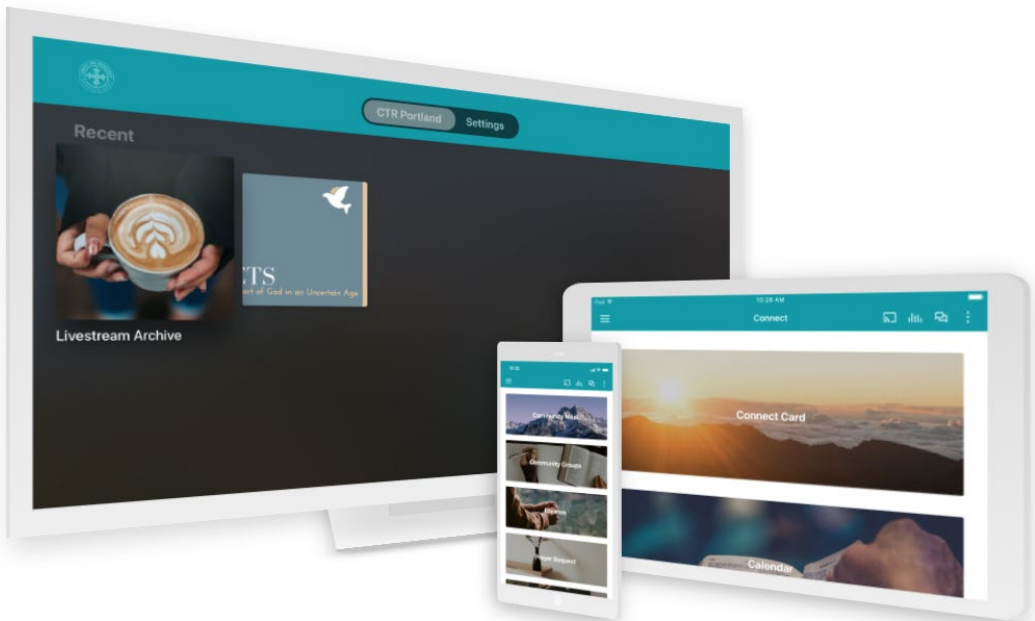
Both mediums are designed to be primarily outward facing.

**The CTR Website** [ctrportland.org] is designed to be our front door– a welcoming place for new people to discover and learn about our church. It is minimal in announcements and church life information.

**Social Media [Instagram & Facebook]** is used for promotion of church events. People are encouraged to “re-post” as a way of sharing with and inviting their friends. [@ctrportland]

*If you would like to access or have had difficulty accessing any of these vehicles, please contact [ctr@ctrportland.org](mailto:ctr@ctrportland.org). Our admin, Cheryl Sullivan, is happy to help you get integrated into our communication systems.*

# DOWNLOAD THE CTR APP!







**CHRIST  
THE REDEEMER**  
—PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH—

Christ the Redeemer Presbyterian Church  
longs to be a diverse people who gather around  
and extend the table of God's grace.

**SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE at 10:00 AM**

**Reverend Sean J.S. Roberts, Lead Pastor**

E-mail: [SRoberts@CTRPortland.org](mailto:SRoberts@CTRPortland.org)  
Tel. 956.207.1398

**Reverend Alden D. Groves, Assistant Pastor**

E-mail: [AGroves@CTRPortland.org](mailto:AGroves@CTRPortland.org)  
Tel. 215.704.0132

**Kendra Hollen,  
Music Ministry Director**

[E-Mail: [khollen@CTRPortland.org](mailto:khollen@CTRPortland.org)]

**Amanda McKrell,  
Director of Community Development**

[E-mail: [amckrell@CTRPortland.org](mailto:amckrell@CTRPortland.org)]

**Abby Reid,  
Children's Ministry Director &  
Connections Coordinator**

[E-Mail: [areid@CTRPortland.org](mailto:areid@CTRPortland.org)]

**Cheryl Sullivan, Administrator**

[E-Mail: [ctr@CTRPortland.org](mailto:ctr@CTRPortland.org)]

**Laura Wiersma, Ministry Assistant**

[E-Mail: [lwiersma@CTRPortland.org](mailto:lwiersma@CTRPortland.org)]

*In need of assistance?*

If you're experiencing a material need beyond what you can manage, the CTR Deacons may be able to help. Please call them at 207-331-1304 or email [deacons@ctrportland.org](mailto:deacons@ctrportland.org). All inquiries will remain confidential, and you will receive a reply within twenty-four hours.

Offices located at North Deering Congregational Church, 1364 Washington Avenue, Portland

CTR is co-located at the  
WHITE MEMORIAL SEVENTH DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH  
97 Allen Avenue | Portland, ME 04103  
207.878.1211 | <https://ctrportland.org>