



## **Frequently Asked Questions about The Portico campus**

### **When will weekly worship services begin at The Portico?**

Sunday, Sept. 11, 2016

### **Where will these services occur?**

Initially, on the second floor of the community building. We plan to move worship services into the event space (former sanctuary) when renovation is completed, hopefully in October.

### **What is the format for these services?**

Our members will be very engaged in the worship service. They will lead certain activities, such as announcements, Scripture readings, and the benediction. We will also have an extended period (5-8 minutes) of silence for reflection and meditation. Music will be important, and will be quite varied in terms of format and performance. The message portion (a.k.a. sermon) will be more a conversation with lots of interaction among those present.

### **Who will lead the message portion of the service?**

Initially, the Rev. Magrey deVega, senior pastor, and the Rev. Justin LaRosa will share this responsibility.

### **How can I support these new weekly services?**

Members can help with hospitality (parking, greeting, distributing the 'bulletin' (worship schedule), technology and sound, care for children, music and worship planning.

### **Will The Portico continue to have meditation services, documentary nights, small groups, Serve Sundays and porch parties (pot luck dinners)?**

Yes—all of those will continue.

### **I know that Hyde Park wants to launch worship with 120 persons as committed participants. What happens if there are not 120 by Sept. 11?**

We will proceed with a soft launch, building toward the 120 for when the renovated space will be ready.

### **I've heard something about a coffee shop. What other outreach activities are planned?**

First, our coffee shop, The Portico Café, is expected to open in November. It will be open every day of the week, including evenings. Love Inc., a nonprofit coordinating

community services for the homeless, will have its office in The Portico. We want to form other community partnerships with agencies whose missions are similar to ours. Our goal is to be a gathering place for all, with a focus on those living and/or working downtown. We want to be quite an entrepreneurial entity to meet needs and to sustain ourselves financially.

**Who is the current staff team at The Portico?**

Justin LaRosa is the full-time clergy assigned and responsible for oversight of all the activities including the worshiping community and café. Bob Douglass is The Portico Administrator, who handles all the financial and building logistics of the campus. Chalette Davis is the part-time Events and Missions Coordinator leading volunteers to make an impact in the city through events and mission projects. Colleen Schmitt is The Portico Music Director, coordinating the music and worship experience Sunday evenings. Deb Richards is the part-time Children's Ministry Director, who leads the Sunday Night Live children's experience. Gregory Balo is The Portico Café Manager who is leading the launch of our café with a mission.