

# The News of National City June 2017 Issue XVII Vol. 6

Inside This Issue	
Upcoming Events	2-3
LGBTQ Events	3
Congregational News	3-4

## Gentle Reminder *Retirement of Mike Dula*

National City Christian Church has one of the longest serving and dedicated maintenance staffs in the Washington, D.C., area. Our friend and colleague Mike Dula has served National City Christian Church for over 27 years and has decided to retire and spend more time with his family.

Since March 1989, Mike has cleaned, shoveled snow, fixed water leaks, set up tables and chairs (and take down) for meetings and meals, moved office furniture, changed light bulbs, picked up trash, shampooed carpet, painted walls and ceilings, provided phone and concierge duties at our front desk, and has spent many, many nights at the church during inclement weather to make sure our church was open.

Mike's last official day will be Friday, June 30, 2017, and we will be honoring him in July, following a Sunday service. When the date is announced, please plan to attend. We will miss him, very much. You will be hearing more in the days and weeks ahead about the celebration of Mike Dula's retirement and how you can be a part of it. For now, we say, "Well done, good and faithful friend!"



- Dr. Stephen Gentle



## *Reverend Doctor Goines*

**Rev. Beverly Goines** graduated with a Doctor of Philosophy degree in Religion and Culture from The Catholic University of America on Saturday, May 13. Her project was entitled "The Ecumenical Vision of the Black Church in the Theologies of Thomas Hoyt, Jr., Frederick Ware, and Kortright Davis." Dr. Goines is grateful for the support and encouragement she received from Rev. Dr. Stephen Gentle and all of the members of National City Christian Church. Dr. Goines believes her doctorate "is proof positive that the effectual fervent prayers of the righteous availeth much! To God be the Glory!"

## *Christmas in June*

It may seem early to begin thinking of Christmas but while you travel for business or pleasure this summer remember our Christmas gift bags we give out to our homeless neighbors. Bring those mini-shampoos, soaps, mouthwash, toothbrushes and toothpaste back to donate to the cause.



# June Birthdays

- 1 Tyler Bond
- 4 Mike McMahon  
James Ferguson  
Barbara Kelley
- 5 Hedrick Mitchell
- 8 James Dennison  
Richard Fogle
- 9 Sara Ketchum  
Annice Majette
- 10 Helen Gray
- 11 Terri Malone  
Alexis Taylor
- 12 Patrick Malone
- 13 Evan Zasoski
- 14 Greshaun Fulgham
- 16 Stephen Gentle  
Chuck Lund  
Liz Ragland
- 18 Jessica Cannon
- 19 Mary Helen Blackwell  
Lauren He\*
- 22 Ann Neeriemer  
Travaughn Lovick
- 23 Ray Valido
- 26 Gentry Alexander  
Kathleen Swihart
- 29 Ana-Elisa Gentle
- 30 Doug Cook  
Elizabeth Ayers

\*Indicates student  
For additions or changes,  
contact Kathleen Swihart at  
kswihart62@gmail.com

# June Sermons

**June 4**

**Pentecost Sunday**

Acts 2:1-21

**June 11**

**Trinity Sunday**

Matthew 28:16-20

**June 18**

**Father's Day**

**The Mission of the Twelve**

Matthew 9:35-10:8

**June 25**

**Chalice Fellowship Sunday**

Matthew 10:24-39

## Pentecost Offering To Be Made on May 28 and June 4

The Pentecost Offering for the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) supports the mission for starting new churches. This year, we will receive the offering on May 28 and June 4.

The theme for this year's offering is "Churches Change the World." Half of the money collected goes to Hope Partnership for Missional Transformation to fund their efforts and the remaining half stays in the region where the donor resides.

- Barbara Kelley

## Weekly Prayer Line on Mondays at 6 a.m.

Every Monday at 6 a.m., we are invited to join the National City prayer line. The dial-in number is (712) 775-7031 and the access code is 371015. If you have questions or want more information, see Loretta Tate.

## Disciples Women To Meet June 6

On June 6 Jessica Max will share her spiritual journey with Disciples Women at 11 a.m. in the Music Suite. Come for the fellowship and bring a sandwich to add to the salad that Circle 2 will share with us. All are welcome.

## Gospel Choir Rehearsals in June

Our Gospel Choir will hold rehearsals on June 6, 13, and 27 in the Music Suite at 7 p.m. on Tuesdays. There will be no rehearsal on June 20.

If you would like more information on the Gospel Choir and/or interested in joining it, see Valeria Foster, director.

## Music at Midday Busting Out in June

Music at Midday's spring season wraps up this month with some amazing, creative, and virtuosic performances by five outstanding organists. These free concerts are held each Friday at 12:15 p.m. You can find detailed information at [www.nationalcitycc.org](http://www.nationalcitycc.org).

**June 2:** Young organist John Nothaft, a native of Vienna, Virginia, currently studying at the Jacobs School of Music of Indiana University, will perform works of Leo Sowerby, J. S. Bach, Felix Mendelssohn, and David Conte.

**June 9:** To mark the celebration of Capital Pride, Michael Britt (Baltimore, Maryland) will perform an entire program of theatre organ music, including "On Broadway," "Over the Rainbow," and his own arrangement of an "Ethel Smith Medley."

**June 16:** Organist Alan Hommerding (Chicago, Illinois) will present a program of "Sweet Suites": first, a three-movement suite by Edward Eicker that draws on well-known works by César Franck, Henry Purcell, and Felix-Andre Guilman; and second, a suite of pieces by Jeanne Demessieux, Jean-Rene Quignard, Kenneth T. Kosche, and J. S. Bach, all based on the tune "Veni Creator Spiritus."

**June 23:** Sondra Goldsmith Proctor (Canton, New York) will perform organ works of J. S. Bach, Herbert Howells, and Calvin Hampton, and conclude with the world premiere of Finale, Opus 78, by Rachel Laurin.

**June 30:** Aaron Comins (New York City) will perform a feast of organ transcriptions of well-known works by Giuseppe Verdi, Modest Mussorgsky, and Richard Wagner.

There will be no Friday Music at Midday during the months of July and August. Concerts will resume after Labor Day.

## LGBTQ Community June Events

**Friday, June 9, 12:15 p.m.** in the NCCC Sanctuary: At our weekly **Music at Midday**, to mark the celebration of Capital Pride, Michael Britt (Baltimore, Maryland) will perform an entire program of theatre organ music, including "On Broadway," "Over the Rainbow," and his own arrangement of an "Ethel Smith Medley."

**Sunday, June 11, 10 a.m.** A group of GLAD members and Disciples LGBTQ friends and advocates will be participating in the national **Equality March 2017**. Details may be found on the LGBTQ Community web page at [www.nationalcitycc.org](http://www.nationalcitycc.org).

**Sunday, June 11, 12 to 7 p.m.**, Pennsylvania Avenue between 3<sup>rd</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> Streets, N.W. Come and visit the National City booth at the **Capital Pride Festival**. Better yet, volunteer to help us set up, staff, or tear down our booth. Help us reach out to the local LGBTQ community.

**Wednesday, June 14, 7 to 8:30 p.m.**, Music Suite. Come and join us at our monthly **LGBTQ Ecumenical Bible Study**, when we will be having the first session in a series on LGBTQ persons and the Bible.

**Thursday, June 15, 6 to 8 p.m.**, Uproar Lounge and Restaurant, 639 Florida Ave., N.W. Monthly **happy hour** to enjoy one another's company and to support a local LGBTQ charity. Suggested minimum donation: \$10.

### Chalice Fellowship Weekend, June 24 and 25

What legacy would you like to leave to the future of National City Christian Church?

Through the years, this ministry has been blessed by many individuals who have remembered National City Christian Church in their wills or estate planning. Beginning June 24 and 25, there will be several opportunities at church and in members' homes to learn about the new Chalice Fellowship and how estate and other types of planned gifts can help to express our ongoing love and support of this wonderful church.

Rev. Randy Johnson of Christian Church Foundation will be with us for this weekend, and sharing in Sunday morning worship services on June 25. If you are interested in attending a special home group meeting, contact Kathleen Burger Gerada at [kathleen.burgergerada@gmail.com](mailto:kathleen.burgergerada@gmail.com).

### Save the Date June 25 for Seminar on Elderly Legal Services

The D.C. Legal Counsel for the Elderly will hold a seminar at National City on Sunday, June 25, at 12:30 p.m. in the Community Room.

The seminar is to address questions/needs if you are a senior, know a senior, or plan to become a senior. Topics to be covered include legal services, hotlines, pro bono, consumer fraud and financial abuse, public benefits and general services, homebound elderly, and programs for D.C. elders.



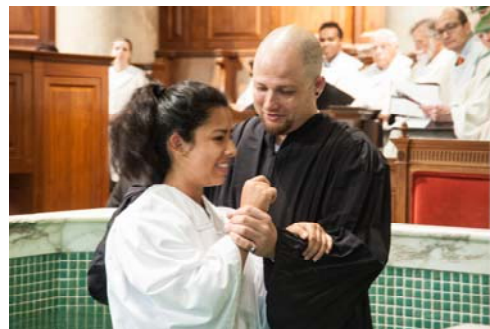
### National City Book Group to discuss Giovanni's Room on June 22

The National City Book Group will meet on Thursday, June 22 at 7 p.m., in the 2nd Floor Conference Room. This month we will discuss James Baldwin's novel *Giovanni's Room*, published in 1956, recounts the tormented love affair in Paris between the American narrator, David, and Giovanni, an Italian bartender. The novel deals with themes of social alienation, origin, and personal identity.



### Baptisms in April

On April 30 -- Unity Sunday -- we celebrated two baptisms from members of the Hispanic congregation. Rev. Noemi Mena baptized Marvin Guevara, whose wife is a member of the Hispanic congregation, and Dr. C. J. Rodriguez baptized Gina Ramirez, who is a high school student.



# Con-Grad-ulations!

**Phillip Gentle** graduated from Grinnell College, Grinnell, Iowa, on May 22, with a Bachelor of Arts in Philosophy. He is the recipient of the Mellon Mays Fellowship which funded research and travel to Missouri, Haiti, and China, for soil science coursework published in *Rootstalk: A Prairie Journal of Culture, Science, and the Arts*. Phillip will continue his studies and work in soil science. Phillip is the son of Stephen and Miriam Gentle, and the grandson of Jimmie and Connie Gentle of Winter Park, Florida, and the late Juliana Flores.

**Hiatt Allen** graduated from American University in three years with an interdisciplinary major--communications, law, economics, and government. He likes politics and is returning to Lexington, Kentucky, where he started a group five years ago to involve high school and college students in education policymaking. A Disciple all his life, he joined National City as an associate member when he began studies at American University. He is a six-generation Disciple.

**Levi Frondo**, who has been attending National City and is from The Ivory Coast, graduated on May 13 from Shenandoah University in Winchester, Virginia, with a major in business.

**Erin Hedlund** graduated from Bucknell University, Lewisburg, Pennsylvania, on May 21 with the degree of Bachelor of Science in Computer Engineering with a minor in Spanish, Magna Cum Laude. Erin is the daughter of Dr. Sarah Hedlund and Dr. Eric Hedlund, and the granddaughter of Kathleen and David Walker; Ronald and Barbara Hedlund, Urbana, Illinois; Jane Lollis, Louisville, Kentucky; and David and Betty Lollis, Lexington, Kentucky.

**Hunter Hough**, grandson of William and Nett Brown, just graduated from James Madison University with majors in Computer Information systems and Finance.

**John Jeffries** graduated from Wesley Theological Seminary on May 8 with a Master of Divinity awarded with honors. The degree was awarded *in absentia* since he was in Afghanistan. In Afghanistan, he is currently team lead for Transparency, Accountability, and Oversight--Ministry of Interior Affairs, focused on assisting the Inspector General with anti-corruption efforts within the Ministry of Interior Affairs. He has been in Afghanistan since April 2016. His time there has been extended and he is currently scheduled to return to the U.S. permanently in March 2018.

**Noah Christopher Craig**, grandson of Beverly and John Scott Williams, will graduate on June 13 from Potomac Falls High School in Sterling, Virginia. Noah will attend the University of Oklahoma on a full scholarship and will be studying computer science. He is a National Merit Scholarship finalist and is in the upper 5 percent of his senior class. Noah is a percussionist in the Potomac Falls Band, a member of symphonic and concert bands, the Percussion Ensemble, and the Strategy Club.

**Taylor McKenzie Wilson** graduated from Mattoon (Illinois) High School on May 26 -- the same high school her great-grandparents -- Wes and Jane Strotman -- graduated from in 1950. Taylor is the daughter of Eddy and Sherri Wilson of Charleston, Illinois, and granddaughter of Barbara and Edward Wilson of Powderhorn, Colorado. Barbara is the Strotmans' daughter, was baptized at National City, active in CYF, and volunteered in the original summer enrichment programs at National City. Her son Eddy was also baptized at National City.



## Who Is That Percussionist?

At the conclusion of the 11 a.m. worship service on Easter Sunday 2016, a very friendly young man introduced himself to music minister Dr. Michael McMahon, saying he was new to the church and that he had been trained as a percussionist. In the year that followed, David Robeck has enriched the music of our worship with drums and other various percussion instruments, and on Easter of this year played timpani, adding depth to the music of congregation, choir, organ, brass, harp, and handbells.

David grew up in Marietta, Georgia, where he and his family attended Sandy Springs Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). He moved to the Washington area for a State Department internship and remained here to attend graduate school. He currently lives in Arlington. We are blessed to have David as an active participant in our music program and as a part of our church family.