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Gala Weekend Celebrates Disciples African American History

On **November 4-5**, National City will be the site of a lecture and dedication of the Oscar Haynes Exhibit celebrating African American contributions to church and society from the 19th century to the present.

Sponsored by the Disciples of Christ Historical Society of Bethany, West Virginia, **the lecture in the sanctuary at 7 p.m. on Saturday, November 4, will be by the Rev. Dr. Delores Carpenter.** Dr. Carpenter, an ordained minister of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), is a well-known teacher, preacher, and church leader. She is minister emeritus of Michigan Park Christian Church and recently retired as professor of religious education at Howard University Divinity School. She will speak on the life and work of the Rev. Carnella Jamison Barnes and her ministry with the National Christian Missionary Convention. A reception will follow the program.

On Sunday morning, **November 5, at 10 a.m., Rev. Terri Hord Owens is our guest preacher.** She is the recently installed General Minister and President of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), and, as with many African American young people, was mentored by Oscar Haynes. Also at the service, Rev. Dr. Rick Lowery will be installed as the new president of the Disciples of Christ Historical Society.

The **dedication of the Oscar Haynes Exhibit at 11:30 a.m.** follows the worship service. The exhibit will feature a rotating display of artifacts and memorabilia of the African American movement within the Christian Church.

Oscar Haynes was the first layman to become president of the National Convocation and served on the board of directors of the Historical Society, National City Christian Church Foundation, Disciples Home Missions, Christian Church Foundation, and countless other regional and general ministries. In addition, he was the past editor of The Old Timers' Grapevine newsletter.

In the words of former Capital Area Regional Minister Rev. Lari Grubbs, "Oscar was someone who could do great things softly, who witnessed to all of the people, and who said racism is wrong and was willing to speak out. And yet when Oscar saw a need, he would see that it got done."

Part of his voice and his professional career was as a journalist with the Afro American Newspapers where his voice and his personality carried influence well beyond Washington.

Oscar Haynes passed away in July 2014, but his legacy and memory will live on through the lives that he touched and the institutions that he cared for. The Disciples of Christ Historical Society is pleased to establish this exhibit on permanent loan to National City Christian Church.

The dedication service will be followed by an All Saints Brunch for a \$10 donation. All are invited.

November Birthdays

- 2 Staci Parrish*
- 5 Virginia Taylor
- 7 Mary Ellen Deardorff
Rick Mohn
- 8 John Von Almen
- 9 John Neal
- 10 John Scott Williams
- 13 Nadine Bishop
- 16 Lorraine Magnussen
- 20 Eva Moore
Tim Schaefer
- 22 Laurese Dancy
- 24 Beverly Goines
- 26 Sylvia Snyder
- 28 Tom Beacham
Charles Covington
- 30 Lon Schreiber

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

On Monday Mornings, NCCC Offers Prayer Call

All are invited to join the weekly conference prayer line for National City at 6 a.m. on Mondays. Simply dial 712-775-7031 and enter access code 371015. For more information, contact Loretta Tate at 202-489-2020.

Gospel Choir Rehearsals

The Gospel Choir will rehearse on November 7, 14, and 21 at 7 p.m. in the Music Suite. If you'd like more information on the choir, contact Valeria Foster, director.

What Does the Bible Say About Same-Sex Relationships?

Come and join us on Wednesday, November 8, at 7 p.m., for the fourth session in our Bible Study series on LGBTQ persons and the Bible. We will focus our study this month on New Testament passages that are frequently interpreted as having an anti-LGBTQ meaning. Come to explore what the Bible really says (and doesn't say) as we learn and discuss together.

Bible Study on November 7

On Tuesday, November 7, there will be a Bible Study sponsored by the Disciples Women at 11 o'clock in the Music Suite. Bring a sandwich and stay for fellowship following the program.

The theme for the year is Freedom, Promise, and Struggle in the Bible. This session is entitled ***Burning Bushes on the Way to Freedom***. The scripture is Exodus 3:1-12 and will be led by Rev. C.J. Rodriguez.

Service of Remembrance and Healing November 8

Grief comes to all of us, and the holidays can be especially difficult when mourning the loss of a loved one. Join us in this Service of Remembrance and Healing on Wednesday, November 8, at 7 p.m. in the Howland Center to be encouraged and to perceive God's presence and direction even through your pain.

Come and light a candle in honor of your loved one. Come to strengthen others and to be strengthened! Bring a picture of your loved one with you.

November Music at Midday: A Cornucopia of Musical Delights

As you enjoy the crisp fall weather, come to enjoy one or more of our free Music at Midday concerts, held on most Fridays at 12:15 p.m.

November 3: Organist Phillip Lamb, currently a doctoral candidate at Rutgers University, will perform works of Leo Sowerby, Edward MacDowell, and J. S. Bach.

November 17: Derrick Ian Meador (Laurel, Mississippi) will present an organ recital that includes works of Max Reger, Dan Locklair, Bjarne Sløgedal, Derek Bourgeois, and William Walton.

There will be **no recitals** on November 10 (Veterans Day) or November 24 (Thanksgiving weekend).

Thanksgiving Luncheon

Sign up this month for the all-church Thanksgiving luncheon on Sunday, November 19, after the 11 a.m. worship. Our annual thanksgiving celebration will feature the excellent Thanksgiving meal of turkey, stuffing, cranberry, and of course, sauerkraut (a National City tradition!). At the annual meeting, Moderator Jane Campbell will share board reports and we will have an opportunity to receive a 2018 church budget and nomination committee report.

LGBTQ Happy Hour To Benefit Casa Ruby

Join friends old and new at our monthly happy hour on Thursday, November 16, from 6 to 8 p.m. at Uproar Lounge and Restaurant, 639 Florida Avenue, N.W., just two blocks from the Shaw/Howard University Metro station (Green/Yellow Lines).

A minimum donation of \$10 per person is requested to support the work of Casa Ruby, the only bilingual multicultural LGBTQ organization providing life-saving services and programs to the most vulnerable in the LGBTQ community. The mission of Casa Ruby is "to create success life stories among Transgender, Gender Queer and Gender Non-conforming Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual people."

Thanksgiving Special Offering

On November 12 and November 19, we will be collecting the Thanksgiving Offering. This offering goes directly for the support of Disciples universities, colleges, and theological institutions. There are fourteen colleges or universities, three seminaries and four seminary foundations and/or divinity houses that this offering is shared among.

These gifts help in continuing the tradition of developing leaders for the Disciples churches and community.

Time for Ministries and Committees To Submit Their Annual Reports

The Annual Report is our official historical document which tells the story of our congregation and its accomplishments and struggles for the year. Every ministry and/or committee is asked to send their report to be included in the Annual Report.

We request that the reports be submitted to the Annual Report Committee by December 18. Please send the report to lorettawas@aol.com. Thank you for your cooperation concerning this important matter.

An Early Start for Our 2018 Lenten Devotional

This month will begin sign-up opportunities for our 2018 Lenten Devotional entitled "*Passion and Promise.*" You'll have the opportunity at evening meetings of groups and on November 19 at our congregational Thanksgiving luncheon. Always feel free to let me know you would like to write a devotional. We ask that they be 250 words, based on the scripture for that week.

The first devotion will be on Ash Wednesday, February 14. We will have two "deadlines." For those who would like to finish their devotional before Christmas, we ask for them by December 15. For those who would prefer a later deadline, we ask for the devotional no later than January 9. This is the final deadline.

If you have questions or suggestions, please feel free to contact Dr. Gentle or me.

- Diana Morse, Editor
2018 Lenten Devotional



Welcome to New Members

On October 1, we welcomed into membership **Chaplain John Von Almen**, who is an Air Force chaplain at Bolling Air Force Base, and his wife, **Rev. Marsha Von Almen**.



Getting Ready for Breakfast With Santa

Our annual Breakfast with Santa -- inviting children in the community -- will take place Saturday, December 2, from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. Join in this popular event by helping with planning and preparations. On the big day, we'll need setter uppers, decorators, activity and craft helpers, greeters, photographers, cleaner uppers, story readers in both English and Spanish, and servers. Please consider joining us, hearing the stories of our guests, and providing hospitality.

Questions or to volunteer to help, contact Teresa Swihart.

Dedication To Celebrate the Life of Adalynn Ellen Dickerson

The short life of Adalynn Ellen Dickerson was celebrated at a tree dedication at Bethany Christian Church, Fort Washington, Maryland, on Sunday, October 8.

Adalynn was the daughter of Adriene and Adam Dickerson, the sister of Kaya and Sara, the granddaughter of Dick and Carol Gesell, and the great-granddaughter of the late Forrest and Betty Warner, long-time members of National City.

Celebrating the 15th Anniversary of the Gospel Choir



Gratitude for Our Gospel Choir

As I counted my blessings at the start of the day, the Gospel Choir was the first one that came to mind the day after the 15th anniversary concert celebration on Sunday, October 8.

They are a small group of five consistent individuals with huge hearts for worship, dedication, and diligence: Annice Majette, Kathy Mosley, Lolita Neal, Dominicus So, and Will White. Four choir members have been in the group for at least 13 years. Will White was the first to join after the first gospel worship service, where Dr. Alvin Jackson announced the formation of a gospel choir. Unless they are out of town, have family matters, or are dealing with health issues, they are here early Sunday morning, serving as music ministers. Hollie Noble is our newest member -- between living and working in Frederick, Maryland, working on filmmaking projects, and taking classes, she rehearses with us in her "spare" time.

While I was working on the music preparations for our October concert, our Gospel Choir members took care of hospitality and fellowship with our returning former members. They scheduled times to break bread together at restaurants prior to rehearsals and after concert day's 8:30 a.m. service; Kathy invited folks to rest at her house before returning for our 2 p.m. call time. The former members were treated like guests and felt so special and appreciative of your thoughtfulness. After the concert, you gave them cards of thanks; they also have a new kente sash memento.

To the National City Christian Church Gospel Choir: I feel proud and privileged to serve as your director/pianist. Even guest musicians remark what a wonderful and easy group you are to work with. Thanks you for your encouragement, support, and prayers. We make a great team, serving the Lord with gladness. Thank you for "letting your light shine!"

- Valeria Foster



Photos by Cameron Tate

