

# The News of National City

## September 2018 Issue XVIII Vol. 9

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## 175 Years at the Welcome Table

Plans are being made for the beginning of our celebration of 175 years of Disciples gathering in Washington, D.C. The actual day is **December 4, 2018**. But we should celebrate all year long this most significant milestone. More news on that in the weeks and months ahead!

Looking to the fall, there are several important Sundays before we arrive at the 175th celebration year:

**Sunday, September 9** - Spirit Sunday & hot dog cookout at 12:30 p.m. in the Courtyard (weather permitting); Christian Pathways and children's program begin again.

**Sunday, October 7** - Anniversary of the Gospel Worship Service with brunch following 8:30 a.m. service, hopefully, with a jazz combo playing in the Atrium.

**Sunday, November 4** - Foundation Board meeting weekend with special Sunday morning worship as the 175th celebrations are about to begin.

Also, beginning Monday, September 10, our **weekly prayer call** will have a new starting time of 6:30 a.m. All are welcome to call in and to pray (privately or aloud) by calling 712-775-7031 code 371015. My gratitude to Loretta Tate and others who continue to pray for National City Christian Church and our prayer concerns list.

**Sundays in September** will have a focus on the biblical letter of James. Join us each Sunday as we consider "A Faith That Works."

- Stephen Gentle

### September Sermons

#### September 2

James 1:17-27,  
Dr. Beverly Goines

#### September 9

*A Faith That Works*  
James 2:1-10, 14-17  
Dr. Gentle

#### September 16

*Words Matter*  
James 3:1-12  
Dr. Gentle

#### September 23

*The Good Life*  
James 3:13 - 4:3, 7-8  
Dr. Gentle

#### September 30

*Powerful Prayer*  
James 5:13-20,  
Dr. Gentle

### Regional Assembly is October 12-13 in Mitchellville, Maryland

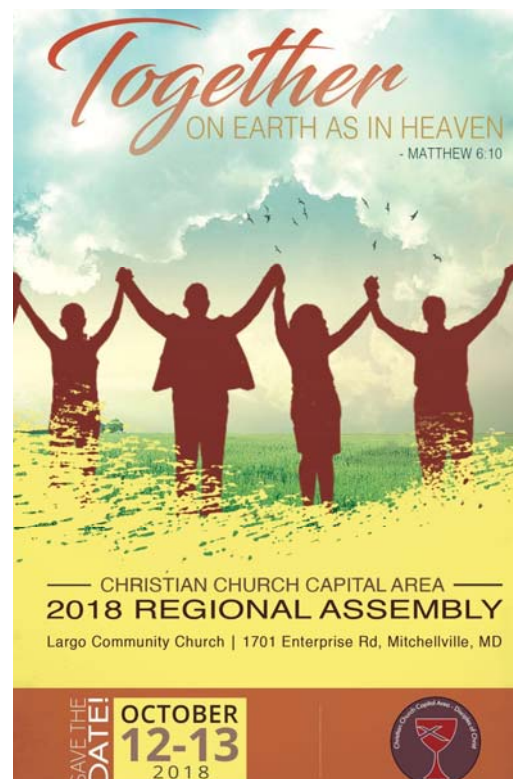
The Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) Capital Area is hosting and has opened registration for its Biennial Regional Assembly -- "Together On Earth As It Is In Heaven."

The assembly takes place October 12 – 13 at Largo Community Church in Mitchellville, Maryland. To register, go to <http://www.cccadisciples.org/regional-assembly-2018>. The first 50 full assembly registrants will receive a special gift. Child care will be available as well as a special program for youth that includes an overnight lock-in.

The assembly will use the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) Mission First! statement to reveal new 21<sup>st</sup> century strategies for effective ministry and mission. Featured will be intergenerational, interracial, cross cultural, open and affirming worship, workshops, and socializing.

The keynote speaker for Friday night will be the Rev. Sandhya Jha, pastor, author, founder and director of the Oakland Peace Center, and pro-reconciliation/anti-racism trainer with Reconciliation Ministry. The preacher for Saturday's worship service will be the Rev. Yvonne Gilmore, pastor, poet and a spoken word artist, and Associate Dean of the Disciples Divinity House at the University of Chicago.

For more information, contact the Rev. Ciara Simonson at [ciara@springfieldchristianchurch.org](mailto:ciara@springfieldchristianchurch.org).



# September Birthdays      October Birthdays

- |                        |                      |
|------------------------|----------------------|
| 2 Ben Moore            | 5 Barbara Boward     |
| 4 Noemi Mena           | Leah Craig           |
| Peggy Washington       | Jennifer Selde       |
| 5 Marcella Hill        | 6 Diane Ives         |
| 6 Cyril Jones          | Carson Talbott*      |
| 7 Susy Sanchez         | 11 Taylor Tate       |
| 8 Megan Dirickson      | Claudia Wingo        |
| 10 Sterling Washington | 16 Mona Corneiro     |
| 11 Katie Campbell-     | 21 Teresa Swihart    |
| Morrison               | 22 Loui Itoh         |
| 13 Caitlin Malone      | 23 James Owens       |
| Casey Underwood        | 24 Fredirickia Lloyd |
| Sadye Sanders          | Bill Ryan            |
| 14 Moe Jackson         | 25 Betty Jones       |
| 16 Marge Bennett       | Beverly Schacht      |
| Deloris Ruddock        | Wes Strotman         |
| 17 Betty Crudup        | 27 Jessica Kelley    |
| 18 Beth Kelley         | Marshall May*        |
| Marc Reber             | 31 Miriam Gentle     |
| 19 Woodie Rea          | Claudine Nichols     |
| 21 Ellen Crowder       |                      |
| Polly He               |                      |
| 22 Roy Hatton          |                      |
| John Sparkman          |                      |
| 27 Rick Bahr           |                      |
| 29 Noah Craig*         |                      |
| 30 Mike Dula           |                      |

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

## Monday Morning Prayer Call New Time!

All are invited to join the weekly conference prayer line for National City at 6:30 a.m. on Mondays. Simply dial 712-775-7031 and enter access code 371015. For more information contact Loretta Tate at 202-489-2020.

## Disciples Women to Meet

Disciples Women will meet on Tuesday, September 11, at 11 a.m. in the Music Suite. The scripture studied is Joshua 2:1-24 and 6:15-25 on Rahab the prostitute.

The general theme for the year for Disciples Women is "Called For God's Purpose."

## Sunday School Classes Resume September 9

Christian Pathways Sunday School class will resume on Sunday, September 9, at 10 a.m. in the Atrium, following summer break.

Likewise, classes for preschool and elementary children will begin on September 9 at 10 a.m. on the third floor, led by Aixa Diaz and Barbara Kelley.

## Reconciliation Ministry Special Offering

The Special Offering for the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), to be held September 30 and October 7, is used to fund the denomination's mission imperative to become a pro-reconciling and anti-racist church utilizing experiential education, inclusive worship, and intentional dialogue.

Efforts to promote healing, relationship, and restoration in the whole family of God are enlivened by funds from this offering. Through it we are able to provide programs for leadership development, curriculum for dialogue and learning, and partnerships within the Church and our communities.

## Friday Music at Midday Begins a New Season

Come and enjoy a new season of music to delight and inspire. Beginning on September 7, Music at Midday concerts will be held each Friday at 12:15 p.m., each one lasting 30 to 45 minutes. Most of the performances will feature organists from around the country and around the world on National City's world-renowned pipe organ. Some of our concerts this year will also feature brass or piano.

These wonderful concert performances are offered to the community for free, so please help us spread the word!

**September 7:** Mitchell Miller (Oberlin, Ohio) will perform organ works of European composers Felix Mendelssohn, Louis Vierne, Paul Hindemith, and Otto Olsson.

**September 14:** Jason Farris (Upperville, Virginia) will present a program of works by British composer Charles Hubert Hastings Parry, including three movements from an unpublished work.

**September 21:** The Barclay Brass (Washington, D.C.) will make the majestic sanctuary resound with music both familiar and new, including a recent work for organ and brass by NCCC organist Kenneth Lowenberg.

**September 28:** Organist Tyler Canonico (Harrisburg, Pennsylvania) will perform works by Gaston Bélier, Herbert Howells, Marcel Dupré, and David Briggs.

*The News of National City* is a monthly publication. Please submit articles for the October Newsletter by September 15 to Diana Morse at [morsediana@comcast.net](mailto:morsediana@comcast.net) or to Colleen Walsh at [cwalsh@nationalcitycc.org](mailto:cwalsh@nationalcitycc.org)



## A Thank You From Theresa Beaton

I want to thank my Church Family for all of the cards and well wishes and condolences during my Mom's illness/transition. She would always say "I'm on the front row now." Well, she's found her peace and she's at rest.

Theresa's mother, Luvenia L. Smith, died on July 25. She was born on June 30, 1925.

## Thank You

We would like to thank our Church Family for all the love and support you all have given us as we have faced some challenges in our lives recently.

It means so much to know that we are surrounded by such a wonderful group of caring people praying for us.

We are so Blessed.

- Beverly and John Scott Williams

## Randa Kayalli Reports on Her Seattle Move

Randa Kayalli reports her new address: 2814 30<sup>th</sup> Ave S, Seattle, Washington 98144-6102. She said it is in a lovely neighborhood called Mount Baker in Seattle and is about two blocks to the light rail station and just south of downtown. She notes her favorite room is her new office, where she does yoga, writes and follows up on real estate inquiries and sales. She offers help if you are in the real estate market - anywhere - to help you find a good agent in your spot in the world. And she especially offers help if you know anyone moving within or to Seattle.

## Crèche or Nativity?

This advent season we would like to offer a display of crèches from the collections of National City members and friends that will provide a glimpse of what that scene might have looked like two thousand years ago.

The display will be set up in a safe location prior to the annual Breakfast with Santa and will run for at least two weeks. Please contact Rev. Steven Baines or Teresa Swihart if you have a nativity scene to loan.



## Lauren He Returns from Italy... and Sends a Thank You

Our long-time member **Lauren He**, daughter of **Polly He**, has returned from her trip as a violinist with the D.C. Youth Orchestra, performing at an Italian music festival this summer. Lauren has just turned 16.

"I was so fortunate to be granted this amazing opportunity to work with a variety of conductors and opera singers and perform in Italy," Lauren writes.

"Although it took hours and hours of rehearsals, the trip provided me with an incredible experience that was a lot of fun. I loved walking to the beach, getting gelato (yum!), going on a hike, and visiting other cities like Limone and Verona. Although the trip was only 12 days, it felt so much longer. Thanks so much for all your support in making this trip possible."

Many National City members and friends participated in the fundraiser for the D.C. Youth Orchestra's trip.

The orchestra had chance to work with many European conductors, pianists, and opera singers (the orchestra played *La Traviata* for them.) They were the first American orchestra to be invited to this 34-year-old music festival. Performances at the festival included Tchaikovsky's *Romeo and Juliet Suite*, Beethoven's 7<sup>th</sup> *Symphony*, and Dvorak's *American Suite*.

Lauren attends BASIS DC and will be in the 11<sup>th</sup> grade. She loves music, science, reading, and photography. This year, she had 5 AP tests and scored 5 in 4 of them (AP Calculus, AP Chemistry, AP environmental science, and AP European History), and 4 in AP English Language & Composition. She was honored as a National AP Scholar.

## Rev. Dr. Beverly Goines Installed at National Convocation Joins African American Religious Studies

Rev. Dr. Beverly Goines was installed as an at-large member of the Board of Trustees of the National Convocation on July 22 in Birmingham, Alabama.

The National Convocation is a voice promoting pertinent issues related to the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) denomination. The Board of Trustees serves as the deliberative body to give guidance and direction to the National Convocation as it pursues mission and ministry in the denomination. The board serves as the governance body in its decision-making and business discussions during Biennial Session and regular board meetings. The board has regular conference calls and meets in Indianapolis once a year in December. For more information, visit [www.nationalconvocation.org](http://www.nationalconvocation.org).

In September, Rev. Goines will start at the Center for the Study of African American Religious Life at the Smithsonian National Museum of African American History and Culture and Georgetown University as a Postdoctoral Fellow for African American Religion and Culture during the 2018-2019 academic year. She will continue her doctoral research as well as host a public talk at the museum that sheds light on the complex history of African American religious life in the Americas and its role in shaping debates on topics such as social justice, religion's role in public life, public monuments and racial memory, education, or politics.



### A Fond Farewell...and a Joyful Celebration to Honor Mike McMahon.

Rev. Michael McMahon honored us with a sermon on his last Sunday with National City on August 19. Dr. Gentle gave tribute to Mike and his husband Ray Valido at the Sunday worship service and at the celebration luncheon following the service.

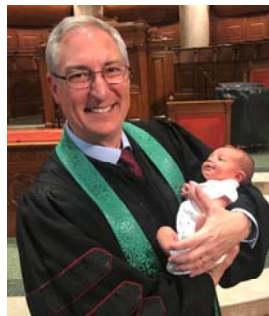
The congregation was invited to the celebration in the Music Suite following the service. It was a joyous occasion, complete with off-the-cuff testimonials from the attendees on how Mike has impacted their musical and spiritual lives. Beginning September 1, Mike will be starting a new ministry as Executive Director of The Hymn Society in the United States and Canada. The website for The Hymn Society is [www.thehymnsociety.org](http://www.thehymnsociety.org).

### Best Wishes to Our Newborn Members

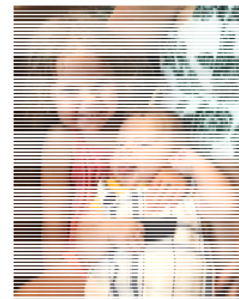
**Laura and Evan Zasoski** welcomed their baby daughter Dot (Dorothy Helen) on August 1 at Georgetown University Hospital. "Dot and Laura doing great. Dot is healthy, happy, and perpetually hungry. Please send everyone at National City our love."



- Evan & Laura  
Zasoski



**Steve Jordan and Rick Oettinger** welcomed their son Adam on Tuesday, August 14. They visited with National City on Sunday, August 19.



**New Friends:** Sage Williams, daughter of Alan and Shana Williams, and her newfound chum **Miles**, son of Natalie and Kevin Carson, born on May 4.