

Ups and Downs

From a children's nursery rhyme:

*The grand old Duke of York, he had ten thousand men;
He marched them up the hill, and then he marched them down again.
And when they're up, they're up, and when they're down, they're down,
And when they're only halfway up, they're neither up nor down.*

Like the Duke of York's men...we are "**neither up nor down**" with all of our elevator woes over the last several weeks!

The main water break damaged the electrical system of our elevator and there is no quick or easy fix. I am sorry for this major challenge that we have had to endure *and* I am so grateful for the patience of our church members, staff, tenants, and guests. Unfortunately the elevator company cannot give us any assurance for repairs in October. Therefore, we need to find **more short-term solutions** while we are awaiting the elevator to be repaired.

To make our church activities more accessible, we have moved every activity to the first floor (except, of course, the worship services, the children's class, and nursery). While this has helped, it still requires persons parking in the church garage to manage several flights of steps, and still presents challenges for getting into the Sanctuary. We need additional creative solutions.

So beginning on **Sunday, October 7**, I propose two major changes for Sundays in October:

- **The 8:30 and 11 a.m. worship services will be moved to the Howland Center.** While I do not like to be out of the beautiful Sanctuary and away from the magnificent pipe organ, having worship services in the Howland Center for the Sundays in October will allow members and friends to avoid the several flights of steps into the Sanctuary.
- **Provide valet service for parking** for everyone who has difficulty with the steps from the parking garage. The idea is to still use the church's parking garage, but to have church volunteers park cars for our members and guests as they drop off their car on 14th Street (nearest the Courtyard entrance). Of course for us to do this, we will need several volunteers on Sunday morning. So if you are willing to help us park cars on Sunday mornings between 8-8:30, 9:30-10, 10:30-11 a.m., and 12:30-1 p.m., please contact Rev. Steven Baines at sbaines@nationalcitycc.org. This is a BIG undertaking, so please volunteer if you are able to do so! **We will begin the valet parking on Sunday, October 7.**

Any additional ideas on how we can be helpful to anyone who has accessibility challenges at the church are truly welcomed. Please send your ideas to Rev. Baines and me. National City Christian Church needs to make sure that every person who wants to have access to worship God may do so.

Please make every effort to be in worship each Sunday in October. Your presence in worship builds up our congregational life and strengthens our Christian fellowship. Thank you for your support and prayers.

- Dr. Stephen Gentle

Sunday Sermons in October

October 7

Eating Habits
(World Communion)
Mark 2:13-17

October 14

Who Can Be Saved?
Mark 10:17-21

October 21

The Greatest
Mark 10:35-45

October 28

Power of Prayer
Mark 10:46-52

October Birthdays

5 Barbara Boward
Leah Craig
Jennifer Selde
6 Carson Talbott*
11 Taylor Tate
Claudia Wingo
16 Mona Corneiro
21 Teresa Swihart
22 Loui Itoh
24 Fredirickia Lloyd
Bill Ryan
25 Betty Jones
CJ Rodriguez
Beverly Schacht
Wes Strotman
27 Jessica Kelley
Marshall May*
31 Miriam Gentle
Claudine Nichols

November Birthdays

2 Anastasia (Staci) Parrish*
5 Virginia Taylor
Chip Talbott
7 Mary Ellen Deardorff
Rick Mohn
8 John Von Almen
9 Sarah Birdsong
John Neal
10 John Scott Williams
13 Nadine G. Bishop
14 David McKinney
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 child or student

For additions or changes, contact Kathleen Swihart at kswihart62@gmail.com

Music at Midday for Fall Fridays

Please join us on Fridays at 12:15 p.m. for our free weekly Music at Midday concerts. During the month of October we will be presenting four outstanding organists performing works of great composers. To view each week's program in greater detail and to check out the schedule of performances for the entire year, visit www.nationalcitycc.org and click on the "Music" tab and then "Friday Music at Midday."

October 5: Organist Justin Brueggeman (Kingsport, Tennessee) will perform works of Edward Elgar, Herbert Howells, Charles-Marie Widor, and J. S. Bach, concluding with the "Epilogue" of Rachel Laurin.

October 12: Jordan Prescott (Baltimore, Maryland) will perform organ works of Herbert Howells, William Bloom, Ad Wammes, Johannes Brahms, and Leo Sowerby, concluding with "Afro Cuban" by Johannes-Matthias Michel.

October 19: Organist Sondra Goldsmith Proctor (Canton, New York) will perform music to touch the spirit, including works of J. S. Bach, Maurice Duruflé, Jehan Alain, and Rachel Laurin.

October 26: Organist David Brock will perform all five movements of Symphony No. 5 in F minor by Charles-Marie Widor, concluding of course with the well-known Toccata.

Disciples Women Bible Study

All are invited to the Disciples Women meeting on Tuesday, October 2, at 11 a.m. in the Music Suite. Bring a sandwich and stay for the fellowship after the meeting.

The study will be on Abigail - woman of wisdom and action - based on the scripture 1 Samuel 25:1-42.

NCCC Prayer Call on Mondays

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.

Gospel Choir Rehearsals

The Gospel Choir will rehearse on Tuesdays, October 2, 9, 23, and 30, in the Music Suite at 7 p.m.

If you would like to join the choir or ask for information, contact Valeria Foster, Gospel Choir Director

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.

The News of National City is a monthly publication.

Please submit articles for the November Newsletter by October 15 to Diana Morse at morsediana@comcast.net or to Colleen Walsh at cwalsh@nationalcitycc.org

Classes Begin on “Should Care for the Environment Be A Major Priority for People of Faith?”

Starting the month of October, National City Christian Church’s Christian Pathways Adult Sunday School class will present six speakers focusing on the question “Should care for the environment be a major priority for people of faith?” The speakers will be presenting from different perspectives. They are:

- Sunday, October 7, at 9:45 a.m., **Dr. Peter Morgan**, a historical account of the Disciples of Christ denomination’s involvement in the care of our earth entitled “A Love Affair with God and Nature.”
- Sunday October 14, at 9:45 a.m., **Rev. Miriam Gentle**, a creation story from the Book of Genesis entitled “Good Stewardship.”
- Sunday October 21, at 9:45 a.m., **Loretta Franklin**, what we learned from the time we were children entering kindergarten until today, entitled “The ABC’s of Being A Good Steward of Nature.” Questioning what we are doing today to reinforce what we have been taught.
- Sunday, October 28, at 9:45 a.m., Diana Morse, taking care of the earth with the thought “The Earth is the Lord’s ... (Psalm 24:1) entitled “Living A Christian Lifestyle.”
- Sunday November 4, at 9 a.m., **Dr. Richard Hamm** has written and spoken extensively about church renewal and transformation.
- Sunday November 11, at 9:45 a.m., **Dr. Beverly J. Goines** will speak on the topic “There is a doomsday clock and we cannot go back.”

We invite everyone to come out and participate in these hour-long presentations on today’s pressing question: “Should care for the environment be a major priority for people of faith?”

The series originated with an article written by the late Archbishop Desmond Tutu in which he stated: “Any normal, thinking human would be concerned about what is happening to our environment. Christians have an additional reason... There is a very intimate connection between us humans and the rest of Creation. It is mystical and real. So, when Adam and Eve muck up their lives through disobeying God, it has devastating consequences for the rest of Creation – the ground which up to then had produced crops for the benefit of humans, now spews forth weeds. This is an imaginative way of saying that Creation has been damaged because human beings have been damaged.”

We, as citizens of this earth have the right to health and a healthy environment. All over the world, there are devastating conditions facing us today. Whether it is because what some believe is our neglect of the environment in which we live or it is simply changing weather patterns; or thousands dying due to hunger and lack of medical care; or those in leadership allowing our precious soil to be stripped creating unhealthy environments; or our waterways becoming a dumping ground for dangerous chemicals, we must question what our responsibility (if any) as Christians should be.

- Loretta Tate

Sharing Our Nativity Sets for Christmas

Please consider sharing your crèches (Nativity set) with the church for the first two weekends in December!

We are inviting the community to come in to view crèches from around the world or wherever yours come from! So far we have one in an eggshell, a homemade one, and a couple from South and Central America! Add yours to the collection! People are also needed to host visitors from the community who come to visit the display.

Questions, volunteers to provide hospitality, and to loan a crèche, please contact Rev. Steven Baines or Teresa Swihart.

Preparing for Our Annual Breakfast With Santa and Mrs. Claus

It's time to prepare for our annual breakfast with Santa and Mrs. Claus!

It will be held Saturday, December 1, from 9 to 11 a.m.

The most important role for everyone to play is to pray for the event. Pray for the kids to come and hear the good news of the birth of Jesus. Pray for our volunteers. Pray for the facility, etc.

In addition, folks are needed to set up and decorate on Friday night, hands on on Saturday morning, help with crafts, food, greeters, clean up during and after the event! Please let Teresa Swihart know if you're available to help or have questions.

Registration Opens November 1 for 2019 General Assembly

Some of the features of the 2019 General Assembly include:

- Opening Ceremony on Saturday afternoon, July 20
- Education featuring some of the premiere programs of the General Ministries
- Sending Out & Closing Ceremony on Wednesday morning, July 24
- Pre-event Bible studies and Bible lessons Monday - Wednesday mornings

Information will be available on the denomination’s website www.disciples.org.

Happy Birthday, Deloris

Sunday, September 16, was a special day for Deloris Ruddock. It was the day she turned 95 years old.

The day was celebrated by our church family with a cake and treats during coffee hour. It was a surprise to Deloris and she was truly delighted by the love shown by her church family. She works weekly with the Food Pantry passing out bags to those in need and she is also part of the Christian Women's Fellowship. We were happy to celebrate this special day with one of God's daughters.

Deloris also recently found out that she along with other members of her military unit will be remembered on a monument. She was part of the 6888th Central Postal Directory Battalion, the only African American WAC unit involved with the directing of mail to soldiers in the

European Theater during World War II. Dedication of the 6888 Central Postal Directory Battalion Monument is scheduled for the fall of 2018, at the Buffalo Soldiers Monument Park at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas. You can find out more about this project by going to www.womenofthe6888th.org.



- Laurese Dancy

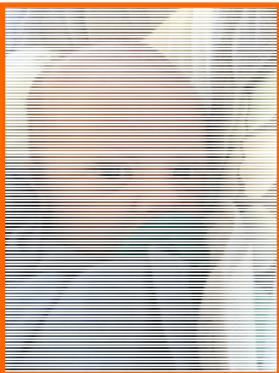
And a Note From Deloris

My Brothers and Sisters of NCCC,

On Sunday, September 16, 2018, at 10 a.m., you made my 95th birthday (actual day) one of the most memorable and greatest I have ever had or could have. May God bless each and every one there with the hugs, kisses, wishes, and the beautiful birthday cake.

Special thanks and blessings to Laurese Dancy, the Food Pantry volunteers, and others who made this day a true blessing. May God bless each of you.

.Deloris



News From Casey and Beau Underwood

Every parent you talk to claims that having a child of your own "changes everything." How you think about the world and act within it becomes radically different once someone is dependent upon you. The future takes a different shape. Priorities change. Etc.

Well, we can confirm all the truisms are indeed true. On Monday morning, September 10, we welcomed Thomas Jesse Underwood into this world. He was 18.5 inches long and weighed 7 lbs 6.5 oz. Casey's labor went relatively smooth and fast. She felt the first contraction about 2 a.m. that morning, we went to the hospital at 4 a.m., and he arrived at 10:04 a.m. He has all his fingers and toes, a pretty calm and chill personality, and is cute as can be.

He is named after both of our fathers, as Thomas is Beau's dad's first name and Jesse is Casey's dad's middle name. We will be calling him by his middle name, Jesse, during childhood. Once he's an adult he can decide what his "grown up name" will be so long (per mom) that he doesn't go by T.J.

Attached is one of our favorite early pictures. We look at those eyes and imagine how much he is taking in right now. We reflect on all the things they're going to see, places they'll look upon, and people they'll interact with. We certainly covet your prayers for Jesse, his future, and the world he'll be inheriting from all of us.

We are all doing well and can't wait for you to meet him in the days, weeks, months, and years ahead. If you're interested in contributing to the college fund, just let us know...

- With great joy, Beau & Casey

A Thank You from Gary Lewis

Many thanks for the emails and calls of concern about the bike accident. The fractured arm is a slow heal but your sentiments have helped soothe the hurt. God's love was felt by your reaching out to me.

- Thank you, Gary