

## Gentle Reminder: Pilgrimage Holy Week and Easter

The Lenten Devotions and group meetings during this season have been so very rich and meaningful. I am grateful for all of our writers, hosts, and leaders as we journey together during this season of Lent. Soon we will be entering Holy Week that culminates in the celebration of Easter Sunday. Please take advantage of all the opportunities for worship and Christian growth that are offered in this month.

Palm Sunday, April 14, Sanctuary services at 8:30 and 11 a.m. Holy Week begins with our traditional procession into the Sanctuary with scripture lessons and special music that draws from the Gospel of Luke. In preparation, read Luke 23:1-49 and plan to be in worship on this special day.

Maundy Thursday, April 18, 7 p.m. in the Howland Center. Come and share in an intergenerational meal and service remembering the Passover meal. This service will help us to better understand some Jewish roots of the Christian faith, especially the background surrounding the Last Supper celebrated by Jesus. All are welcome. Reserve your place by emailing RSVP@nationalcitycc.org. Suggested donation of \$10 is appreciated, but not required.

Good Friday, April 19, sidewalk communion between 12–1:30 and 5–6:30 p.m. Church members are encouraged to "drop by" for communion and/or help our Elders and Pastoral staff share special hospitality with our neighbors on this unique day, all from "the steps" of National City Christian Church. For more information, contact sbaines@nationalcitycc.org.

Good Friday, April 19, Sanctuary service at 7 p.m. The Sanctuary Choir will lead worship in a meaningful service that focuses upon the passion story according to the Gospel of John. Rev. Steven Baines will be preaching the message, "Here Is Your King."

Easter Sunday, April 21, 8:30 a.m. outdoor worship on the steps of National City. Celebrate Easter Sunday with the Gospel Choir leading worship on Thomas Circle! Chairs and a sound system will be set up on the lower landing of the church's steps as our church takes the good news of the Christian faith onto the streets. All are encouraged to attend this unique Sunday celebration. Dr. Gentle will preach a special outdoor message "Easter Joy!"

Easter Sunday, April 21, Easter brass music in the Sanctuary at 10:40 a.m. The Ephraim Brass Quintet will usher in the morning's celebration as we share festive Easter prelude music. At the 11 a.m. Easter Sanctuary Celebration, we will welcome hundreds of friends, neighbors, and loved ones. Dr. Gentle will preach the message "The Easter Difference" based on 1 Corinthians 15:3-6, 12-20. Invite a friend. Easter at National City Christian Church is just too good to not share with someone new!

Indeed, we are on a journey together. We are not tourists, but pilgrims. Our destination is not Easter Sunday, but to be Easter people living lives of hope in the resurrection of our Lord Jesus, the Christ. Plan to share in each and every opportunity as we continue our pilgrimage in this holiest of all seasons.

# **April** Birthdays

- 1 Jane Strotman
- 2 Kathy Burger Gerada
- 4 Bill Brown
- 6 Gary Lewis
- 7 Chieko Cook Charles Hickman
- 8 Kent Woods
- 9 Judy Lotz
- 11 Will Dickerson
- 16 Charles Ndode
- 17 Bill Norton
- 18 Tristan Nowicki
- 21 John D. Arterberry
- 22 Amanda Denison Jude Willliams\*
- 23 Darrell Ertzberger
- 27 Harold Magnussen
- 28 Verdia Haywood Glen Kruse
- 30 Eric Hedlund

## May Birthdays

- 1 Allison Craig
- 2 Wayne Sharp Marie Temple Kevin Wilson\*
- 5 Brody Bacon\*
- 8 Charlie Daniel
- 9 Courtney Aklin Emma King Kristen Walling
- 11 Kristin Cambell Tawanna Lloyd
- 12 Steve Jordan
- 13 Jordan Asmon Justin Hedlund Joe Reef
- 17 Byron Cotton James Kelley
- 18 Katie Blaisdell Sara McCue
- 19 Jane Campbell
- 24 Tom Kelley
- 26 Diana Morse
- 27 Sushila Maru

## April Music at Midday: Better Than Cherry Blossoms

Forget the cherry blossoms. For a breathtaking experience of beauty, please join us on the Fridays of April at 12:15 p.m. for our free weekly Music at Midday concerts. For complete program information, visit www.nationalcitycc.org, click on "Music" and then on "Friday Music at Midday."

Check out these amazing performances:

**April 5:** Craig S. Williams, organist at West Point (home of the world's largest church pipe organ), will perform a program of exciting and uplifting works for organ by Marcel Dupré, Roy Brunner, Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart, Gordon Jacob, and Charles-Marie Widor

**April 12:** Richmond organist Christopher Reynolds will perform music that will feed your spirit, including works of Dietrich Buxtehude, Herbert Howells, Joseph Jongen, and Max Reger.

April 19: No recital (Good Friday)

**April 26:** Juilliard Doctoral Fellow Colin MacKnight will perform his own arrangements of works by Robert Schumann, Claude Debussy, and Franz Liszt.

- J. Michael McMahon

#### **Disciples Women To Meet April 2**

All are welcome to come to the Bible Study sponsored by Disciples Women. We meet on Tuesday, April 2, at 11 o'clock in the Music Suite. Miriam Gentle will lead the discussion on Huldah and Anna, prophets of God. The scriptures are: 2 Kings 22, 2 Kings 23:1-3, 21-30, and Luke 2:21-40. Bring a sandwich and stay for lunch and fellowship.

- Kathleen Swihart

### NCCC Offers Prayer Call on Monday Mornings

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 in April**

The Gospel Choir will rehearse in the Music Suite at 7 p.m. on Tuesdays, April 2, 9, 23, and 30. For further information, contact Valeria Foster, Gospel Choir director.

#### **Ecumenical Advocacy Days**

Ecumenical Advocacy Days for Global Peace with Justice will hold its national gathering April 5-8 at the Doubletree by Hilton Hotel Washington DC-Crystal City at 300 Army-Navy Drive in Arlington, Virginia.

#### Easter Offering

Our Easter special offering will be collected on April 14 and April 21.

The offering goes to the support of the General Ministries of the Church. Some examples of these ministries include the Central Pastoral Office for Hispanic Ministries, Council on Christian Unity, Disciples Women, Division of Overseas Ministries/Global Ministries along with many other Ministries which can be found on the disciples.org website.

The website more fully describes each of the General Ministries of the Church.

- Barbara Kelley

The News of National City
is a monthly publication.
Please submit articles for the
May Newsletter by April 15
to Diana Morse
at morsediana@comcast.net
and to Colleen Walsh at
cwalsh@nationalcitycc.org

<sup>\*</sup> Indicates a student or child For additions or changes, contact Kathleen Swihart at kswihart62@gmail.com

#### **Dear Parents and Young Adults!!**

It's that time of year again, summer camp time. Follow this link to register yourself and/or your child(ren) for the appropriate camp(s). http://www.cccadisciples.org/camp

#### In Brief:

- Discovery Camp at Mary Mac is for families with young children
- Pioneer Camp at Mary Mac is for children who are currently in Kindergarten, 1st, or 2nd grades and lasts a whole weekend (if you want to be close to your kids check with me I might need volunteers in the kitchen)
- Junior Camp at Mary Mac is for children who are currently in 3rd, 4th, or 5th grades
- Chi Rho Camp at Mary Mac is for children who are currently in 6th, 7th, and 8th grades
- CYF at Bethany Beach is for youth who are currently in 9th-12th grades
- YAC at Bethany Beach is for young adults a year out of CYF to 30.
- There is also a Family camp at Bethany Beach folks of all ages are encouraged to attend (last year
  Grace and I took my mom with us for that
  adventure and there were some babies there too!)

We'd love to have great representation of National City folks at all of our camps! The education department at National City would like to pay 50 percent of your child or young adults registration. So when you register please use the following code: CCCA283. Should you need help with the remaining fields please let me know.

Before we get to summer though, the education department will be holding another children's movie night in May and then a movie of interest to adults and youth! Please keep watch for those announcements!!

Hope to see you at camp! Grace and I will be at all the events at Mary Mac.

- Teresa Swihart



Please join us at the Christian Church Conference Center at Bethany Beach in Delaware on May 31-June 2 for the Disciples Women Retreat, sponsored by Christian Church Capital Area Disciples Women.

This year we are welcoming the Rev. Dr. Pat Donahoo, the Executive Director of Disciples Women Ministries, as our retreat leader, and the Rev. Miriam Gentle who will share the story of the Woman to Woman trip to Cuba in October 2018.

Registration forms are available and online registration is available at app.campdoc.com/ register/ccca to register and to use a credit/debit card to pay the camp fee. The full-time rate of \$145 includes two nights lodging, four meals, and program fees.

#### **Volunteers Needed for N Street Village**

Back by popular demand National City is restarting our breakfast preparation and service to the residents at N Street Village as part of our outreach with My Neighbor Ministries. Volunteers from all aspects of our church are needed to help restart this thriving service opportunity. We will begin preparing and serving breakfast on Saturday, May 11, at 8:30 a.m. We will be continuing our service on the SECOND SATURDAY of the month throughout the year.

Rev. Steven Baines and Tony Johnson will be providing an orientation session on Saturday, April 27, at 11 a.m. in the Large Atrium at church. Sign-up sheets will be available on Sundays at the front desk and in the Sanctuary Narthex and Atrium. For more information, please contact Rev. Baines sbaines@nationalcitycc.org or Tony at Tony.tcjohnson.johnson92@gmail.com.

## Tony Johnson Provides Benefit Performance for "My Neighbor Ministries"

Tony Johnson gave a mesmerizing dance interpretation entitled "Reflections: Glimpses of God" on Saturday, March 16, at the Festival Center in Adams Morgan. The benefit performance raised awareness and financial support for "My Neighbor Ministries" and the ministry Tony continues to share with our poor and homeless community. Thank you, Tony!

- Steven Baines

#### Welcome to New Member

We welcomed Selika "Sal" Josiah on March 1 at the 8:30 a.m. service when she transferred her membership to National City. She is baptized and transferred her membership from Monmouth Worship Center in Marlboro, New Jersey.

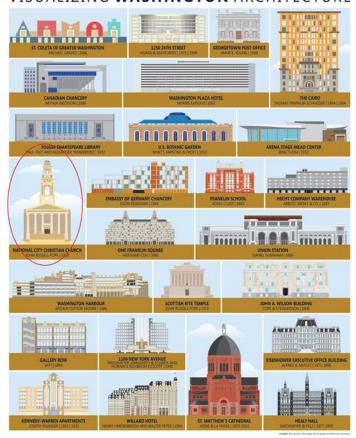
#### A Thank You for Love and Support

I want to thank everyone in our congregation for the love and support you all gave us while John Scott and I were going through some difficult times. Your caring has made this experience much more bearable. Blessings to all of you.

- Beverly Williams



## CAPITAL STYLE



Congratulations! National City Christian Church, designed by the famed American architect John Russell Pope, has been immortalized by icons of DC in a unique poster: "Capital Style: Visualizing Washington Architecture." The poster highlights 25 of Washington, DC's most architecturally notable buildings.

A copy of the print has been obtained by National City and will be framed and put on display as part of our Epiphany Process.



## Welcoming a Choral Festival and Our Neighbors During Lent

The World Strides High School Choral Festival once again is blessing our church and community with six weeks of inspiring choral ensembles.

Also, on our steps each Saturday through Easter, we are welcoming our neighbors as we make our Lenten pilgrimage. Rev. Dr. Beverly Goines, Rev. Steven Baines, our elders and other staff members are providing hospitality and information about National City.

#### In Sympathy

Our thoughts and prayers are with Sara Ketchum, whose brother Carl died on March 18. Services were held on March 22.

Our thoughts and prayers are with Rev. Arnie Porter and his family on the death of his wife Dorothy Porter on March 14. They shared nearly 73 years of marriage and as an Air Force family lived across four countries and moved fourteen times. Their three children are Steve, Lisa, and Julie. Rev. Porter had served as associate minister at National City for three years. Their address is 8512 Conover Place, Alexandria, VA 22308.

Our prayers and sympathy are with Rev. David Caldwell and his family on the death of his wife Kris. Services were held on January 25 at Christian Temple in Catonsville, Maryland. Rev. Caldwell had served as associate minister at National City.

Services were held at National City on March 31 for Robert Taylor, known to friends and business associates as the "Mayor of Cleveland Park." He died on March 2. He is survived by his wife Dr. Willietta Schley, known as Billye, and between them, nine children, 14 grandchildren, and four great-grandchildren. He was a graduate of Tennessee State University and worked in the brokerage, insurance, and beverage industries in several cities. He managed the Cleveland park office of H&R Block for 18 years before starting his own business.

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