

The News of National City

May 2019 Issue XIX Vol. 5

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EPIPHANY TO RESURRECTION AND BEYOND

NATIONAL CITY RISES TO LIVE NEW LIFE IN CHRIST!

National City Christian Church is blessed – richly blessed, with longevity, dreamers, diverse worshippers, and a wealth of volunteers' time, talents, and spiritual gifts. And thanks to our God of bounteous provision, we are blessed with monetary resources far beyond our plot on Thomas Circle. Google maps might point to an address, but we are a living church with a mission to reach near and far. What do we give to the church? "All to Thee I freely give!"

This is the great commission given to us after Easter resurrection. Jesus proclaims, "Therefore go and make disciples of all nations...And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age." What a promise! As we go sharing the Risen Christ, God is with us to the very end of the age.

During the month of May, living under the light of Easter morning, National City launches the second phase of our Epiphany Process: The Building and Program/Ministry Implementation Teams.

These teams appointed by our moderator will guide the congregation in two directed, comprehensive, and complementary analyses of our current building, structure, and programming.

We will be guided in this journey with our Congregation Coach from Hope Partnership, Rev. Rick Morse. These teams will be in consultation with architectural firms, historians, preservationists, and possibly most important, moderated, community-engagement, focus groups to see where our lights are shining bright and where new lanterns of love can shine God's welcome.

The team members who have agreed to serve you, National City Christian Church, in this vital and transformative work are listed to the right. We ask for continued prayers for this church and her mission, our ministerial staff, and the community around us that in prayer all our hearts might be prepared and receptive to God's love and embrace.

And please join us every Saturday at 8 a.m. in our prayer call at 712-775-7031, Code: 371015. What a joyous way to start your weekend!

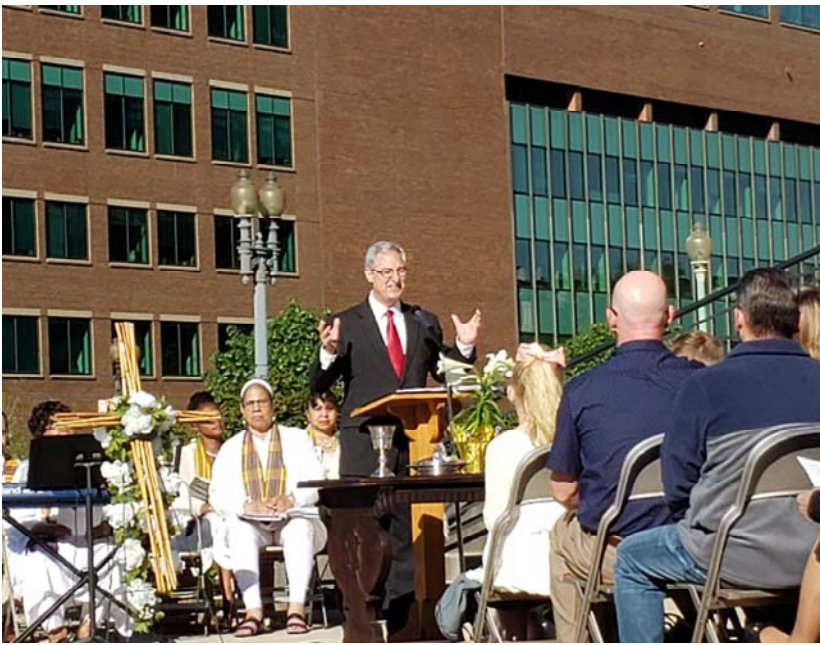
- In love and service,
Steven Baines

Program/Ministry Implementation Team Chairs:

Aixa Diaz,
Loretta Franklin,
Steven Baines
Catherine Gordon,
Rick Oettinger,
Sadye Sanders,
Marie Temple,
Evan Zasoski,
Shana Williams,
Ex-Officio:
Stephen Gentle,
Alan Williams

Building Implementation Team Chairs:

Jane Campbell,
Chip Talbott,
Steven Baines
Gentry Alexander,
Kathleen Burger-Gerada,
Tom Kelley,
Sara Ketchum,
Ann Neeriermer,
Ex-Officio:
Stephen Gentle,
Alan Williams



Gospel Worship on Easter Morning on the Steps.
Dr. Gentle preaches to our gathered neighbors and congregation on Thomas Circle.





Grace Swihart showing off the eggs she found during our Easter Egg Hunt.



Chuck Lund, Susy Sanchez, and Logan also enjoying the Easter Egg Hunt.



Easter Sunday with the Ephraim Brass Ensemble and the wonderful Sanctuary Choir.

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 Neighbors' Ministries.

Volunteers from all aspects of our church are needed to help restart this thriving service opportunity. N Street Village has assured us the program is under new supervision. 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.

If you missed the April Volunteer Orientation, Rev. Steven Baines and Tony Johnson will be providing information on Sundays at the front desk and Large Atrium. For more information, please contact Tony Johnson at tony.tcjohnson.johnson92@gmail.com.

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

June Birthdays

4 Duane Cummins
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
15 Jane Baines
16 Stephen Gentle
18 Jessica Cannon
19 Mary Helen Blackwell
Lauren He
22 Ann Neeriemer
Travaughn Lovick
23 Ray Valido
Gentry Alexander
Kathleen Swihart
29 Ana-Elisa Gentle
Gina Ramirez
30 Doug Cook

* Indicates a student or child

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

Disciples Women To Meet May 7

Disciples Women will meet on Tuesday, May 7, at 11 a.m. in the Music Suite. For further information, contact Kathleen Swihart.

New Call-In Prayer Day and Time

If you would like to join our weekly prayer, you are invited to call in on Saturdays at 8 a.m. for community prayer. Call 712-775-7031 and use code 371015. If you have questions regarding the prayer line, contact Loretta Tate.

Christian Pathways Class To Study the National Convocation

Do you know anything about the history of African American Disciples?

Does the merger between the National Christian Missionary Convention and the United Christian Missionary Society ring any bells?

Have you ever heard of Preston Taylor?

Join the Christian Pathways Sunday School Class as we learn about the National Convocation and its history. The National Convocation is the organization within the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) related to black church life in the context of fellowship, program promotion, leadership training, and strengthening congregations involved in the mission of the church.

Dates: April 28 and May 5

Time: 9:45 a.m.

Location: The Atrium.

Led by Rev. Dr. Beverly Goines

This Mother's Day - Blanket the World with Love!

Church World Service distributes thousands of blankets around the world, thanks to donations from congregations, including ours on Blanket Sunday, which this year is on Mother's Day May 12. Cost of a blanket is \$10.

For many years, our church has been helping to keep our neighbors warm by providing blankets to families here in the United States and around the world. Imagine you are a young parent who is forced to leave your home with your two children. It is a dark night, and you are walking on a dirt road from Macedonia to Serbia, far from your hometown. You stop at the registration center in Presevo, where you receive critical supplies to help you and your children before continuing the journey.

Among those emergency supplies were blankets, including baby blankets. You quickly wrap them around your children to keep them warm. You also receive a lightweight blanket to use for carrying your family's belongings. In the next room at the registration center, you and your children are served a hot meal, including bread and milk. Following the meal, you receive emergency food rations to take with you on your journey. You are able to wash your children using the hygiene kits you received. This is a reality for many journeying across Europe right now.

Our gifts of hospitality are possible because our congregation supports the CWS Blanket Program. This year, we can help young mothers and so many families. Our church will be taking a special offering on Mother's Day to help provide blankets and other emergency items to mothers and their families all around the world. For only 10 dollars, you can give a blanket that can provide warmth and shelter, comfort and privacy, and healing and hope wherever God's people may need care. These blankets might be the best gift you ever give and you can change a life all at the same time.

Music at Midday Blooms in May

Now that the beauty of nature has burst into full bloom, come and enjoy some beautiful music to go with it. Our Music at Midday concerts are held each Friday at 12:15 p.m. and last just 30 to 45 minutes, just long enough to lift your spirit and prepare you for the weekend. The concerts are free, but we welcome your gift to sustain this self-supporting series.

Check out these wonderful performances for the month of May:

May 3: Organist **Derrick Ian Meador** (Laurel, Mississippi) will perform the world premiere of *Psalm Preludes* by composer Buck McDaniel along with works of John Weaver, César Franck, and Louis Vierne.

May 10: Organist **Clara B. Gerdes** (Curtis Institute, Philadelphia) will perform compositions of Marcel Dupré and Naji Hakim along with her own transcriptions of works of Maurice Duruflé and Sergei Prokofiev.

May 17: Basque organist **Loreto Aramendi** (San Sebastián, Spain) will perform works of Dietrich Buxtehude and Charles Tournemire along with transcriptions of works by Franz Liszt and Camille Saint-Saëns.

May 24: Organist **Carson Cooman**, Composer in Residence at Harvard University's Memorial Chapel, will perform works of four living composers: Felix Bräuer, Carlotta Ferrari, Lynn Trapp, and Thomas Åberg.

May 31: Organist **Samantha Scheff** (Asbury Park, New Jersey) will perform works of J. S. Bach, Jan Pieterszoon Sweelinck, and Louis Vierne, concluding with the celebrated Choral Variations on *Veni Creator* by Maurice Duruflé.

- J. Michael McMahon

Gospel Choir Rehearsals

The Gospel Choir will rehearse on the following Tuesdays at 7 p.m. in the Music Suite; May 7, 14, 21; June 4, 11, 18

If you would like to know more about the choir, or to join, contact Valeria Foster, Gospel Choir director.

Easter Sermon Series: All About Love

Third Sunday of Easter

May 5, 2019

How Do I Love Thee?

Stephen Gentle

John 21:12-19

Fourth Sunday of Easter

Mother's Day

May 12, 2019

How Does God Love You?

Stephen Gentle

John 10:22-30

Fifth Sunday of Easter

May 19, 2019

How Do We Love One Another?

Stephen Gentle

John 13:31-35

Sixth Sunday of Easter

Memorial Day Weekend

May 26, 2019

Alexa, Where Do You Find Peace?

Steven Baines

John 14:23-29

Family
Movie Night
May 10 at 6 pm
w/ Activities and Snacks
Free for Parents w/ Children
RSVP to 202-232-0323



The Sounds of Ukraine on May 17

The world-renowned Kyiv Chamber Choir returns to perform a Washington concert at 7:30 p.m. on Friday May 17, at National City Christian Church.

Tickets (\$40) are available at National City Christian Church (202-232-0323), Rev. Steven Baines, ext. 102, or online at www.universe.com.

You may also call Platinum Concerts International, toll-free, at 1-877-232-9835 and purchase at the door. For concert information, go to www.platinumconcerts.com. This is a rare opportunity to hear one of the world's great choirs share 'hidden treasures' from 1,000 years of Ukrainian sacred and folk music. One of 10 concerts the Choir will perform in North American cities, May 17 promises to be a special occasion – not to be missed.

Spring Adult Conference at Bethany Beach May 13-16

"Strangers No More - a Review of our Disciple Story Then and Now" will be the focus of our region's adult conference at our Bethany Beach facilities May 13-16 -- two blocks from the ocean.

The featured presenter is Rev. Yakelin Santos, the region's own in-house Disciples historian, whose mission is to teach Disciples history to our ministerial candidates studying for ordination. She is one of eight pastors chosen by the General Assembly planners to provide Bible study materials in preparation for the General Assembly. She is active in Springfield Christian Church and works for the Department of Defense.

Laird Thomason, director of the conference, said the goal of the conference is to live and learn, worship and play with as many folk as we can. This includes knowing more about the Disciples, seeing our Disciples selves through the eyes of other cultures, and being able to better communicate our Disciples identity to others.

To register go to <http://www.cccadisciples.org/camp#forms>.

Hygiene and Care Packages Needed for Sisters of Mercy

In conjunction with My Neighbors' Ministries, Tony Johnson is assisting the South-Central Justice Institute of the Sisters of Mercy in collection of care packages for the influx of immigrants and refugees to the greater DC metropolitan area. We will be collecting these items during May and June. Donations may be dropped in the collection box in the Atrium on Sunday mornings and during the week as well.

Donations of Needed Goods:

- Gently used duffel bags, backpacks, string-packs, and reusable shopping bags
- New and gently used coats, hats, mittens, as well as sweatshirts/fleece pullovers
- New socks and underwear, toothbrushes & toothpaste, lip balm, deodorant
- Diapers, pull-ups, baby wipes, feminine pads
- Coloring books and small packs of crayons

Pentecost Offering To Be June 2 and June 9

The Pentecost Offering will be collected on June 2 and June 9. This offering is used to support the mission for starting new churches.

Half of the money collected during this offering 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

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