

The News of National City

March 2020 Issue XX Vol. 3

Inside This Issue	
Pastoral Search Committee	2
Upcoming Events	2-4
Lenten Events	4
Congregational News	4

BECOME A BEACON

2020 LENTEN DEVOTIONAL

Our 2020 Lenten Devotional Booklets are here!

This year's theme is *Become a Beacon: Living in the Light*, and the Devotional is comprised of reflections from the National City community on the weekly Scripture passages from this year's Lectionary. Rev. Steven Baines, our Editor, thanks each member who contributed their time and prayer for truly one of the most powerful devotionals in recent memories. We truly are indeed a blessed community!

Hard copies are available at National City in the Atrium, and can be downloaded on our website. The daily meditations are also being sent out via email, and uploaded to our website and Facebook page. To sign up for our emails please contact Colleen Walsh at cwalsh@nationalcitycc.org.

Please also join in any of the discussion groups listed below. Blessings for a Holy Lent!

Lenten Study Groups

- Saturdays at 10 a.m. at National City. Led by Rev. Steven Baines.
- Sundays at 9 a.m. Christian Pathways Class in the atrium. Led by Loretta Tate.
- Riderwood Senior Living Community Study Group in Silver Spring, Maryland. Sunday, March at 3 p.m., and Sunday, April 5 at 3 p.m. only. Hosted by Betty Jones, please RSVP to (301) 438-3855.
- Arlington/Falls Church light meal and discussion Sundays at 6 p.m., Hosted by Teresa Swihart, 2905 Lawrence Drive, Falls Church.
- Sunday, March 1 at 5 p.m. Hosted by Karla Williams and Ron Elsey, 20190 Hopi Drive, Ashburn, VA. Please RSVP to (630) 263-9238 or karlaandco@gmail.com.
- Sundays, March 15 and March 22, at 5 p.m. hosted by Maury Lee, 20490 Langley Drive, Sterling, VA. Please RSVP to (703) 404-4644 or Mauryrlee@gmail.com.
- Sunday, March 29, at 5 p.m. Led by Kathy and Glen Burger-Gerada, 12808 Monroe Manner Drive, Herndon, VA. Please RSVP to (703) 742-8458 or ggerada@yahoo.com.

Worship in March

Sunday, March 1

Rev. Baines Preaching
Matthew 4:1-11

Jesus is Led Into the Wilderness

Sunday, March 8

Dr. Goines Preaching
John 3:1-17

Nicodemus Searches for Eternal Life

Sunday, March 15

Rev. Baines Preaching
John 4:5-26

A Samaritan Woman Draws Living Water

Sunday, March 22

Dr. Goines Preaching
John 9:1-25

A Blind Man Sees the Light

Sunday, March 29

Rev. Baines Preaching
John 11:30-45

Jesus Raises Lazarus from Death to Life

Pastoral Search Committee



Search Committee Members: At the February 16 Commissioning of the Pastoral Search Committee: Robin Hamilton, Loretta Franklin, Teresa Swihart, Sara Ann Ketchum, Paul Guequierre, Jane Campbell (chair), Anthony Mague (Aixa's alternate), Aixa Diaz (with Agnes), Sadye Sanders, Sterling Washington, and Regional Minister Allen V. Harris. Not at the commissioning: Chip Talbott and Alan Williams. Not pictured: Carmen Soter, who serves as a representative of the Iglesia Cristiana Nacional.

The Pastoral Search Committee, commissioned on February 16, met for the first time on February 23. Our first task is to identify an interim minister who will serve for as long as one year while we conduct the search for the Senior Pastor.

Mercifully Rev. Steven Baines and Rev. Dr. Beverly Goines agreed to provide worship, pastoral care, and administrative leadership during Lent while we search for an interim.

We are building on the Epiphany process and the work done there to create a congregational profile and a ministerial profile for the interim. We are pursuing an aggressive schedule to try to identify candidates for the interim minister with the assistance of our Regional Minister Rev. Allen V. Harris. We hope to identify that person within the next several weeks.

We intend to include the broader congregation in the search process through the Epiphany groups that will be working on what we want to become as a Congregation shining the light of God's love in this community and in the world. As part of that work we will build a Congregational profile – not only of who we are, but who we want to be – and a ministerial profile for our new senior pastor. Dr. Gentle leaves large shoes.

Please feel free to reach out to me or any member of the search committee with ideas. We will keep you informed as the process unfolds.

- Jane Campbell, Chair
Pastoral Search Committee

Make Music with Us!

The Lenten season has begun. Rehearsals are being scheduled to prepare music from now through Easter. Plans are also being made to blend our voices with First Baptist Church here on Good Friday.

Have you sung in a choir or played an instrument before? We would be *delighted* to welcome new members to strengthen our choral and instrumental presence in worship. Both the Sanctuary Choir and the Gospel Choir need more altos, tenors, and basses. The best part is that you will not only help our faith community glorify our Lord through song, but when you share your God-given gifts, *you* will be blessed while "serving the Lord with gladness." To find out more, please speak with Valeria Foster following worship service or contact her at vfoster@nationalcitycc.org or (202) 797-0103.

In the meantime, sing joyfully within the congregation, giving praise to the Lord for all his blessings.

Next Rehearsals:

Gospel Choir	Tuesdays, March 3 & 10	7 p.m.
Sanctuary Choir	Saturday, March 7	10 a.m.
	Sunday, March 15	11:30 a.m.

Considering Matthew Shepard Performance

Join the Washington and Lee University Singers at National City Christian Church on Sunday, March 1, at 3 p.m. for Craig Hella Johnson's, *Considering Matthew Shepard*, one of the most meaningful recent works of social justice art. This multimedia fusion oratorio uses the featured choir, soloists, instrumentalists, and narrators to tell the tragic story and aftermath of the kidnapping, torture, and death of Matthew Shepard in Wyoming in 1998.

From the Washington Post: "Considering Matthew Shepard" demonstrates music's capacity to encompass, transform and transcend tragedy. Powerfully cathartic, it leads us from horror and grief to a higher understanding of the human condition, enabling us to endure."

"Brown Bag" Bible Study After Church on March 1

"Their eyes were opened and they recognized him." Radical hospitality is the theme for the March 1 "brown bag" Bible study. Scripture is Luke 24:13-35. Rev. Steven Baines will be leading. All are invited to bring a sandwich, salad, or snack and join the study in the 3rd Floor Conference at 11:30 p.m.

Music at Midday in March

All are invited to the free Music at Midday concerts in the Sanctuary in March from 12:15 to 1 p.m. Donations are accepted.

March 6: Organist Timothy Duhr (Washington, D.C.) will perform great music of 17th century composer Georg Muffat and 19th century composer César Franck.

March 13: Hans Uwe Hielscher (Wiesbaden, Germany) will present a delightful program of organ music from the 20th and 21st centuries by composers Denis Bédard. Dan Miller, Jam Zwart, and Charles Callahan.

March 20: Violinist Sara Su Jones and pianist Tatyana Stepanova (Chicago, Illinois) will perform music of women composers Clara Schumann, Gwyneth Walker, and Lili Boulanger, along with compositions of Antonio Vivaldi, Grigoras Dinicu, and Jascha Haifetz.

March 27: Organist and composer Carson Cooman (Cambridge, Massachusetts) will perform music of three living composers: Bernard Heyes, Brenda Portman, and Thomas Åborg.

Tougaloo College Choir Concert

The Tougaloo College Concert Choir will present a concert at National City Christian Church at **3 p.m. on Sunday, March 8.**

The college, founded in 1869, is in Tougaloo, Mississippi, and is affiliated with the United Church of Christ and the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). The visit has been welcomed by the Washington Area Tougaloo Alumni Chapter.

Call-In Prayer Time on Saturdays

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.

March Birthdays

- 5 Jeff Jeffrey
- 7 Loretta Tate
- 10 Rick Oettinger
- 11 Michelle Jezycki
- 13 Phillip Gentle
- 16 Aixa Diaz
- Peter Morgan
- 19 David Albee
- 23 Enid Maitland
- Bettie Moores
- 24 Jim Gentle
- 26 Norman Kruse
- 30 Loretta Franklin

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 Nnode
- 17 Bill Norton
- 18 Tristan Nowicki
- 21 John D. Arterberry
- 22 Amanda Denison
- Jude Williams*
- 23 Darrell Ertzberger
- 27 Harold Magnussen
- 28 Verdiana Haywood
- Glen Kruse
- 30 Eric Hedlund

*Indicates student

For additions or changes, contact Kathleen Swihart at kwihart62@gmail.com

Spring Ahead

One Hour

MARCH 8, 2020



The News of National City is a monthly publication. Please submit articles for the April Newsletter by March 15 to Diana Morse at morsediana@comcast.net



Easter Egg Hunt

It's all about the hunt! The Easter egg hunt that is.

Last year we had great success with our very first Easter egg hunt after church. The children had a great time and the parents were able to make connections.

Your help is needed to make it happen this year. Please bring a dozen or more Easter eggs filled with candy plastic eggs to church before Easter and leave them at the atrium desk.

You can also volunteer to help "hide" the eggs in the yard prior to the 10 a.m. service.

Join in Museum Trip on Saturday, April 25

On Saturday April 25, join National City in a trip to the National Museum of African American History and Culture. We'll meet at the museum at 9:30 a.m. Our visit begins promptly at 10 a.m. Contact Rev. Beverly Goines at bgoines@nationalcitycc.org to reserve your space! Thirty tickets are available. First come, first served!

For those who haven't yet gotten tickets...or want to make a return visit, this is a great opportunity.



Welcome to New Member

We welcomed **Janet Hopkins** into membership at National City on February 2. She is transferring from Northway Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in Dallas, Texas. She has lived in Texas all of her life and moved here from near downtown Dallas. She has a bachelor's degree in business/finance from Texas Tech University and is currently working for JLL Commercial Real Estate.

She adds: "I have two beautiful grown daughters, Ashton 25 and Meagan 18, who still live in Dallas. I'm so glad to be a member of NCCC!"



Baptism Service Held February 23

During the worship service on Sunday, February 23, Dr. Gentle baptized **Lorraine Budd**. Her birthday was on February 22, and she looked forward to being baptized the next day.

Fond Farewells to the Gentles

