



# National City Christian Church

## *e*News at NATIONAL CITY CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Dear Friends,

Weather in the D.C. area can be rather fickle as we have discovered. As one who dreads the sweltering heat and sweat of July and August each year, I found this past week's truly spring-like weather enormously refreshing. A/C has been in the off position; windows have been flung open night and day; dear fur babies have been perched in front of screen doors pondering hungry rabbits and chipmunks; and their dads have enjoyed rocking on the porch in delightful evening relaxation. In those moments, all seems right with the world, even though the headlines and hourly news tell us differently.

It is easy to get distracted and forget to breath, to sense God's presence always with us, and to think about the stories we are blessed as a community of faith to share with one another. This Sunday we will gather to welcome little Lachlan Nguyen Reef into our National City family through child dedication. Lachlan is the newborn son of Joe Reef and Peter Nguyen. We are so honored to share their love of Lachlan and to be charged with helping raise this child under the instruction and care of our Creator.

As new life begins, we also give thanks to God for a life that has been lived. Recently,

Pastor Stephanie was contacted by Sarah Ogren who shared that her grandmother, Mrs. LaVonne Ogren, had passed away at the age of 100. LaVonne and her husband, Harmon, were married at National City Christian Church in 1941. This Sunday we will remember the lives of LaVonne and Harmon Ogren in our pastoral prayer time and rejoice

with Sarah for the lives of these two saints now fully redeemed in Christ.



This week's Scripture comes from the Gospel of John, Chapter 17:

*After Jesus had spoken these words, he looked up to heaven and said, 'Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son so that the Son may glorify you, since you have given him authority over all people, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me. All mine are yours, and yours are mine; and I have been glorified in them. And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one.'*

As we reflect on the deliberate actions we take this Sunday, remembering God's presence always with us, let's focus our hearts and minds with these questions:

- **What does it mean for Jesus to say that all his followers are God's, and they are one in Christ?**
- **Do we always feel protected by God's presence even in circumstances we do not understand?**
- **What words of instruction and care would you share with Lachlan Nguyen Reef?**



We look forward to seeing you this Sunday!

*Steven C. Baines*



**YOU CAN'T START A FIRE  
WITHOUT A SPARK...**

**BE THE**

**SPARK**

JOIN US FOR

# PENTECOST

MAY 28

WEAR RED & POTLUCK LUNCH

SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

childdedication

*committing our children to the Lord*

