

**NATIONAL CITY CHRISTIAN CHURCH FOUNDATION**

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**BACKGROUND**

National City Christian Church Foundation is proud of its position as one of the Recognized Organizations of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in the United States and Canada. Since 1930 it has been our charge to fulfill Alexander Campbell's dream of proclaiming the gospel in the presence of the leaders of the nation and the world. We continue to share this historic house of worship with our community and with Disciples everywhere.

On behalf of the whole denomination we consider ourselves fortunate to be in a position to provide excellent ministries in the diverse, urban setting that is Washington, DC. Yet we also take seriously the responsibility that is ours to maintain the physical facilities, which provide a second church home for all Disciples.

As the Disciple's National Church, we seek to lead by example as we live and work to celebrate the faith in Jesus Christ, which unites our hearts while honoring those differences which make us unique. We are able to see how the Spirit is transforming us and broadening our vision of the future.

We are grateful for the leadership of those who volunteer their time and talents to our ministry. We deeply appreciate D. Duane Cummins, our Board Chair, the members of the Board of Trustees, as well as the Foundation's many members and friends.

**SERVING ONE ANOTHER**

Living and witnessing in Washington, DC affords both the Foundation and the congregation the daily opportunity to be faithful to the challenge to meet the spiritual and physical needs of our members, of our neighbors, and of our nation's leaders.

During 2007, the congregation adopted a new Model for Ministry inviting all people to: Connect with Christ; Grow as Disciples; Serve with Joy; and Share God's Love.

We continued to serve our neighborhood by offering a Summer Enrichment Program for 40 children. In its forty-one year history, it has been recognized as an excellent model for summer student enrichment and partially supported financially by the National City Christian Church Foundation.

We also serve the neighborhood through a weekly food pantry for homeless persons as well as serving breakfast at a women's shelter and serving meals to the homeless through an organization called Martha's Table.

A Street Team was formed as a gesture of hospitality on Sunday mornings offering passersby a cup of coffee, water and a handshake with an invitation to join in worship.

**SERVING DISCIPLES**

We assist our fellow Disciples through long-standing programs of sabbatical hosting, and bunkhouse ministries. We hosted several excellent pulpit speakers: Dr. Glenn Thomas Carson, President, Disciples of

Christ Historical Society, Jimmy Mohler, former Trustee and chairperson for Week of Compassion, Rev. Arnold Nelson, President, Disciples Home Missions, and Trustee Dr. Peter Morgan.

Hilda's Gift Shop was offered at General Assembly and is open weekly to the community raising awareness of building sustainable communities throughout the world.

National City welcomed Dr. Sharon E. Watkins, General Minister and President, as lecturer of the Fifth Annual Harold Watkins Lecture.

Through our music program we hosted College choirs from the Stone-Campbell movement, traveling church choirs from other Disciples congregations as well as community musical performances.

Housed within National City is an office for Disciples Center for Public Witness a coordinating center for many church, society, human rights and global issues.

### **SERVING THE WORLD**

National City was host to the International Ecumenical Conference on Human Rights in the Philippines; Disciples Peace Fellowship; Sojourners Call for Renewal National Conference; and Lutheran Volunteer Corps.

### **LIVING THE VISION**

The growing family that is the congregation of National City Christian Church invites all to become Disciples witnesses in Washington. We truly are becoming a house of prayer for all people. We are growing as a church that celebrates our unity in Christ while honoring our diversity. In giving expression to our vision for ministry in the Nation's Capital, National City Christian Church is: a place of a growing spiritually; a place of dedicated service; a place of genuine hospitality; a place of true diversity; and a place of outstanding music and the arts.

These great pillars of our ministry are calling us to build an even greater work on the foundation they provide. We celebrate the ministry that already has begun, and we anxiously await the work that lies ahead. As members and friends of National City Christian Church, whether we live and work near Washington or elsewhere, it is our common task to lead the faithful to new understanding, new hope and new community. We ask for your ongoing prayers, support and assistance.

Through a myriad of opportunities for study, for prayer, and for service, we are working out our response to God's call in this day and time. Through the leading of the Holy Spirit, we are attempting to discern the path we should follow as we move the theory to practice in our desire to be open and affirming and welcoming of all persons. With the assistance of regional and general staff and volunteers, we are working to understand the racism that is part of the every day life of persons and of institutions. Likewise, we are committed to discovering the means by which that racism can be dismantled.

### **A VISION THAT IS OPEN TO THE SPIRIT**

We are keenly aware of the increasing number of homeless and are continuing conversations with experienced agencies, planners, and community developers which may result in an exciting new ministry for children and their families who need supportive housing.

As your National Church, we feel called to encourage a national dialogue on the issues that confront our future. Through a new lecture series, major gatherings of denominational leaders, and constant prayer, we intend to open the way for the leading of the Holy Spirit in the meeting of these challenges.

The future of National City, like that of all gatherings of Christians, is both exciting and challenging. We are grateful to be sharing the journey with you and thank you for your continued support.

