



the **district** church
A CHURCH FOR THE CITY

**WORSHIP.
COMMUNITY.
JUSTICE.**

ANNUAL REPORT 2018

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WHO WE ARE

Our Mission

To make disciples of Jesus who live out their God-given mission in life.

Our Vision

Impacting our city for Christ, one neighborhood at a time

Our Values

Worship - upward to God
Community - inward to one another
Justice - outward to the world

OUR ANCHORS



MISSIONAL

Living out a generous, spirit-led faith, in everyday life



MULTICULTURAL

Making disciples of all nations on Earth, as it is in heaven.



MULTIPLYING

Developing leaders and churches in DC and beyond





District Church,

As I reflect on this last year I continue to be amazed at what God is doing in so many people's lives in our congregation. What started as a dream in our living room eight years ago has now multiplied to dozens and dozens of living rooms across the city. God's people gathering together each week to study God's Word and share life together, looking to bless everyone they encounter.

This last year we committed to taking the next few years to focus on developing a culture of prayer in the church and expanding our discipleship training. We want to see prayer breaking out in every part of the church and in every part of our lives. And we want to see you be fully equipped to be a disciple of Jesus by living out God's mission in your life. We believe these will impact every area of our lives and every area of our church as we grow deeper.

I hope you will take the time to not simply flip through this report, but rather pray through this report. To go slowly and take the time to praise God for the ways He is at work in so many people's lives and in so many areas of our church and of our city.

May we be a generation that fully bets our life on the gospel!

If you are new with us, I hope you will see this report as an invitation for you to join us in being part of what God is doing through the local church here at TDC.

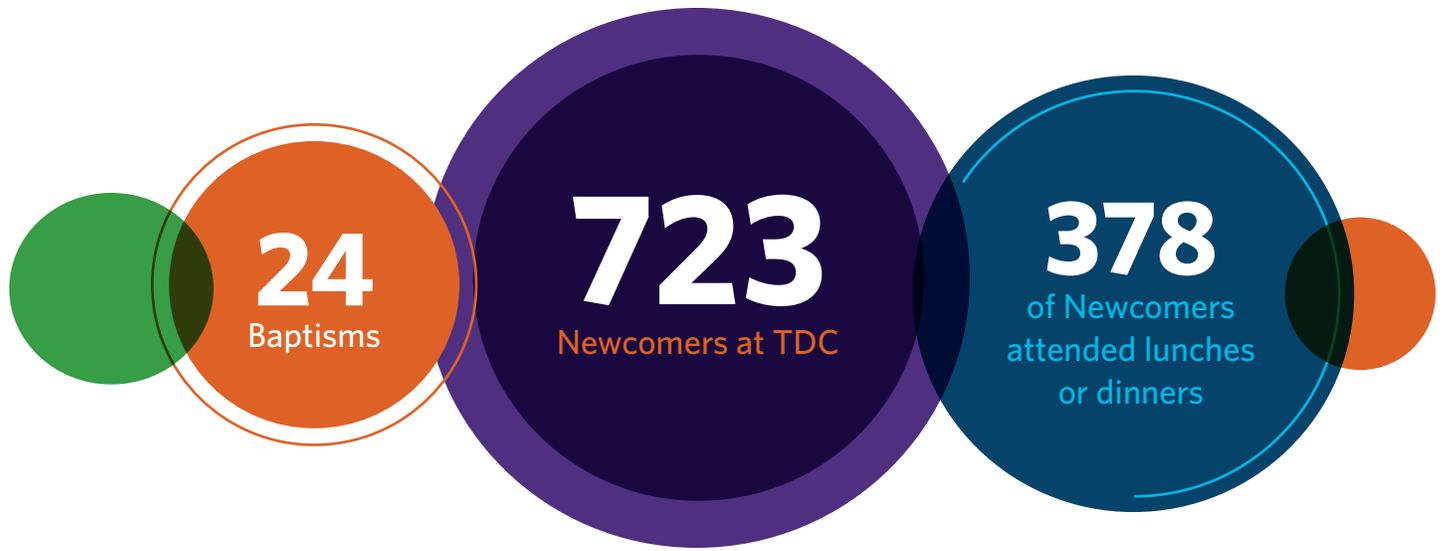
Your pastor,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Aaron Graham".

Aaron Graham
Lead Pastor



DISCIPLESHIP



Leadership Community

The District Church's Leadership Community serves to carry out the church's vision, mission and values through the different ways that they serve as small group & ministry team leaders. Through their regular service and commitment to the Gospel, God uses these leaders to shape our church.

173 members of Leadership Community



Monthly Discipleship Trainings

Making Disciples

Our church prioritizes discipleship, because that's what Jesus did in his ministry. We are continually looking for ways to support those in our church that are leading small groups or ministry teams, so that they are being discipled as they make disciples. Last summer, we initiated monthly discipleship trainings for the Leadership Community with the goal of this becoming a standard discipleship curriculum for all leaders in our church.





Kids' City in Numbers

- 24** BABIES DEDICATED AT THE DISTRICT CHURCH
- 20** VOLUNTEERS TRAINED
- 1** NEW CLASSROOM ADDED

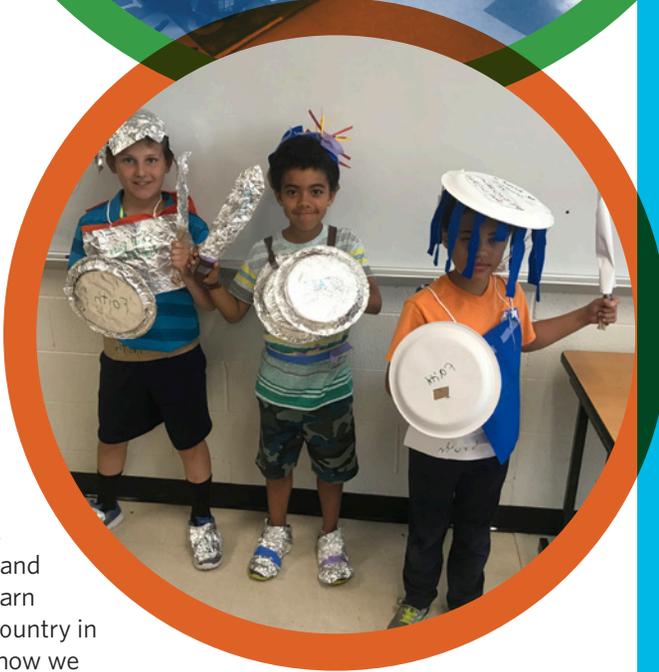


Kids' City Classrooms

"I love Kids' City! From the routines, smiling faces...and accepting diversity even among us, families...my kids are set up to actually know and learn about Jesus. It is amazing that Kids' City loves us both as a family & also as a parent/child."
 -Morganne Hom Owens, Kids' City Parent

Youth Ministry Launch

TDC launched our first ever Youth Ministry in March of 2018, for kids 11+. Starting with breakfast, games and laughter, the first few months were focused on establishing relationships, testing out curriculums, and identifying the needs of the TDC Youth. The first outing for the group was to a Wizards game followed by a Gospel concert, full of dancing, worship and fellowship. Also, one of our leaders attended the Orange Conference to learn best practices and trends that many churches are facing throughout the country in relation to Youth and Children's Ministry. We want to always be learning how we can faithfully serve our amazing youth in ways that are relevant to their daily lives!



PRAYER

New This Year

- **New prayer station added on Sunday morning to make prayer intercession available throughout the entire service**
- **Consistent monthly prayer nights**

Prayer is one of the most valuable things we can do to support the people in our church and stand firm in our faith. Our Prayer Team is a significant part of our spiritual support, and we are always seeking ways to grow the prayer ministry of our church.

This year, we've prayed around the themes of hearing God, the role of our church in DC, our church ministry trips, and for the renovation of our new ministry center. We've also continued our partnership with David's Tent by joining the DC Prayer Gathering on the mall.



Hearing God

In May, we offered a three-part series on "Hearing God," with a focus on hearing and discerning God's voice through listening and prophetic prayer. We explored questions like how to hear God through Scripture or journaling, what it means to practice discernment, and how to position yourself to hear God. It was encouraging to see people at our church are eager to learn more about prayer, and we plan to offer more resources like this in the future.



Coming Soon...

The launch of a platform for sharing testimonies & answered prayers of God's work in the lives of those in our church.



Worship Arts



Sunday Worship



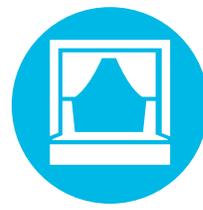
Production



Stage Crew



Choir



Stage Design



Dance

Good Friday



Wrote and performed our first TDC stage play



Popular TDC songs in 2018

- "As We Pray" by Gateway Worship
- "Give Him Praises" by William McDowell
- "Build My Life" by Housefires

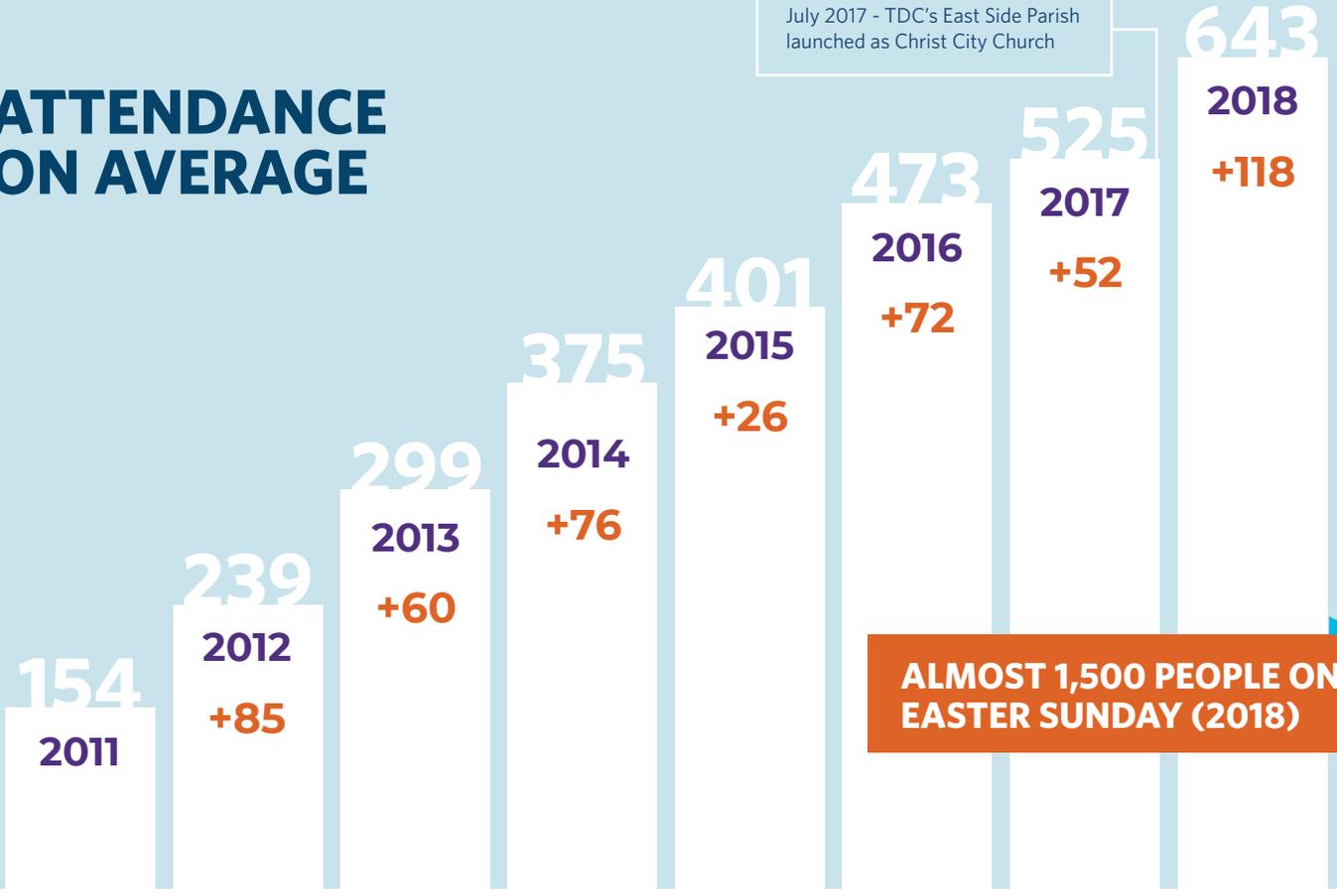
- We also saw the youth in our church step into leadership roles as they sang solos in worship for the first time.

Coming Soon...
Church-wide worship and prayer night early 2019!

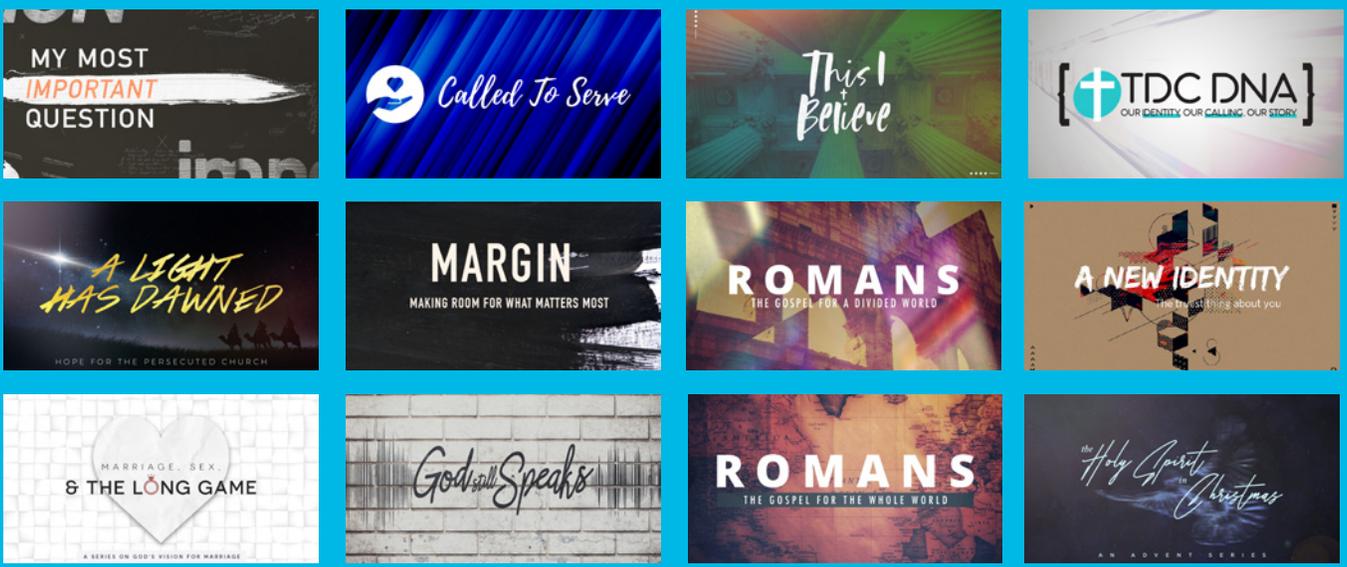
Our Worship Arts Ministry has grown in size over the past year, and we even added 2 new areas - dance and stage design.

GATHERINGS

ATTENDANCE ON AVERAGE



This Year's Sermon Series



FINANCIAL UPDATE

July 1, 2017 - June 30, 2018 (Fiscal Year)

Our Executive Board carefully seeks God's guidance in determining and approving the allocation of each year's budget. Our staff are challenged and expected to be wise stewards of the budgets entrusted to them. Every dollar received or spent is accounted for through careful record keeping by our staff and our accounting firm.

Last Year's Income

General Tithes & Offerings:	\$1,235,522
Total Designated Giving*:	\$164,289
Total Income:	\$1,399,812
Total Expenses:	\$1,204,842
Net Income:	\$194,970

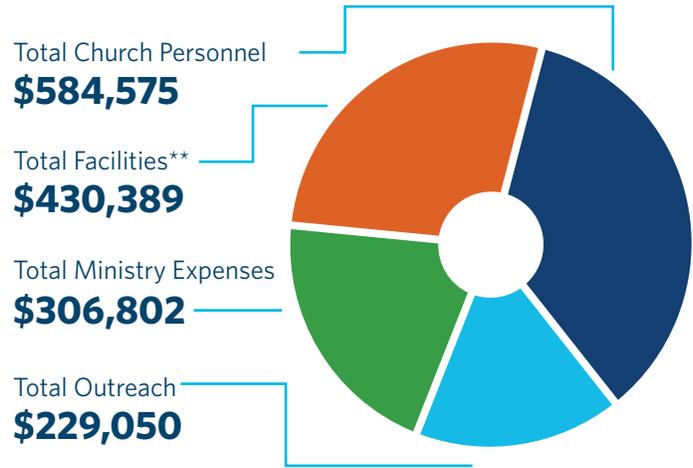
*Designated giving includes: DC127, Advent Offering, Pentecost Offering, District Renewal Fund

Last Year's Expenses

Personnel:	\$460,858
Leadership Development:	\$36,865
Discipleship:	\$41,746
Ministry Teams:	\$58,071
Communications:	\$40,957
Operations:	\$64,373
Facilities:	\$305,965
Outreach:	\$194,267
Miscellaneous:	\$1,740
Total Expenses:	\$1,204,842
Total Income:	\$1,399,812
Net Income:	\$194,970

This Year's Budget

Total 2018-2019 Budget: **\$1,550,815.82**



**Includes Otis Street Ministry Center mortgage.

Average weekly giving needed: **\$29,823**

NOTES

- Personnel for FY17/18 included: Lead Pastor, Pastor of Spiritual Care, Director of Worship Arts, Director of Strategic Operations, Ministry Teams Leader, Operations Manager, Communications Coordinator, Leadership Resident, District Fellows.
- Personnel for FY18/19 includes: Lead Pastor, Pastor of Spiritual Care, Pastor of Worship Arts, Director of Strategic Operations, Ministry Teams Leader, Small Groups Coordinator, Prayer Leader, Operations Manager, Communications Coordinator, Leadership Resident, District Fellows.
- Ministry Teams includes: Hospitality, Kids' City, Worship Arts, Production, Creative Communications, & Prayer.
- Facility costs include: Columbia Heights Educational Campus, Shaw Office, Ministry Center at 1225 Otis Street NE and Fairmont Fellows House.
- Outreach includes: DC127, Advent, local/global projects, mission partnerships, network giving & benevolence.
- Net income is set aside for savings and future expansion.
- Impact DC funds are included on page 21 of this report.

GIVING



ADVENT OFFERING 2017

Thanks to your generosity, we raised \$72,255 during our Advent Offering! This went to support the persecuted church globally, hurricane relief efforts in Puerto Rico and Houston, and our local partners here in DC working among the poor. Please continue to pray for those we supported with this offering: Questscope, Open Doors, World Relief, Life Raft International, Transform Koukaki, Hovespian Ministries, Urban Strategies, DC127, Little Lights, and Samaritan Inns.

TOTAL RAISED:
\$72,255

PENTECOST OFFERING 2018

For Pentecost, our church raised \$24,310! This is an offering to support our partners committed to planting churches. Please continue to pray for those we supported with this offering: Mavuno Church in Kenya and beyond, La Chapelle in Montreal, and DC Church Planters.

TOTAL RAISED:
\$24,310

15

couples have met
in our church and
got married

28

couples completed
Prepare & Enrich
(couples workshop)

6

couples married in
our church
this year

COUNSELING & CARE

Counseling is one of the most important ways to explore the areas of your life where you can experience healing and growth. The beauty in receiving pastoral counseling is creating the opportunity for your relationship with God to be the path through which healing and growth happens.

ON SUNDAYS



2,650

cups of coffee served this year



4,160

strawberry halves served



5,000

pens given out this year



Every Sunday, it takes more than 75 volunteers to turn our school into a place of worship.



"It brings me joy to serve the church through the hospitality team on Sundays"

- Jong Eun Lee, Hospitality Volunteer



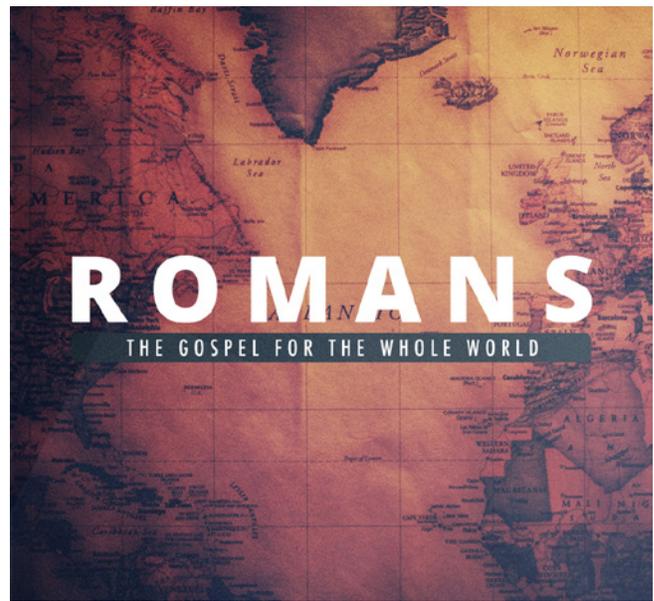
"I continue to serve in hospitality because I appreciate the warm community I have built at TDC and want to help make others feel welcome in our family."

- Julie Mitchell, Hospitality Leader



ROMANS: GOSPEL FOR THE WHOLE WORLD

In 2018, TDC went through the book of Romans as a church. No other book of the Bible has earned as many commentaries, no other book has had such a theological influence, and hardly any book of the Bible has had such an influence on the church. Our church went through a transformative journey receiving sermons each Sunday, weekly in small group communities, and daily in personal devotionals. *For I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God that brings salvation to everyone who believes...* (Romans 1:16)



SMALL GROUPS

New Groups & Classes Launched

- Womens' Storytelling Group
- Virtual Small Group
- Alpha Class
- Baby Boomers & Friends Group
- NW DC Day Mom's Group
- Intercessory Prayer Group
- SE Coed Group
- Financial Planning for The Urban Dweller Class
- Old Testament Survey Class

95

devotionals
written for
Romans

52

New small group
leaders trained

55

active small
groups

600

people enrolled
in small groups
last year

“My favorite part about leading small group is watching my group members enter as strangers with big questions, and become close friends as the year goes on...”

- Austin MacDougall, Small Group Leader



AFFINITY GROUPS

TDC's Affinity Groups serve as places of education, service and healing for people of color at our church. These spaces prepare people of color to re-enter into the greater church community in healthy and complete ways. Affinity Groups also exist to serve our diverse church at large by sharing our stories and guiding the church through conversations around culture and reconciliation as we seek unity in the body of Christ and move toward a Revelation 7:9-10 vision of the church.

“...sometimes during our gatherings, I step back and just watch the group - each lady brings something unique yet powerful to the table, and those individual gifts are amplified when they interact with the other gifts. To see the diversity of the Kingdom on display in this way is beyond energizing. We serve a mighty God!”

**- Shaylyn Cochran,
Small Group Leader**

...And I truly love how being a leader is deepening my understanding and love for my faith and my God!

-Afua Ofusu-Barko, Small Group Leader





Download the TDC App to get access to devotional content, find a small group, and get plugged in.

Search "The District Church" in the App Store or on Google Play

• LOCAL & GLOBAL OUTREACH



As a church that values the Biblical call to justice, we want to be people who serve God in word and deed. One way we do this is through connecting with our community, helping those who are in need. Urban education, mentoring, playing with children who are homeless, feeding the hungry, helping in kitchens while serving and building relationships with those in need -- on any given day you'll find those in our church engaged in these kinds of activities in an attempt to display care, compassion, and justice in the city we love.

250 TDC'ers volunteered for our Spring 2018 All-church service day

15 Trash cleanups across 15 neighborhoods

- ### OUR LOCAL PARTNERS
- Homeless Children's Playtime Project
 - Thrive
 - Samaritan Inns
 - District Bridges
 - Lemonade & Wintertime
 - Hot Chocolate Ministry
 - Columbia Heights Educational Campus



The Lemonade & Hot Chocolate Ministries were started by one of our church leaders.



GLOBAL

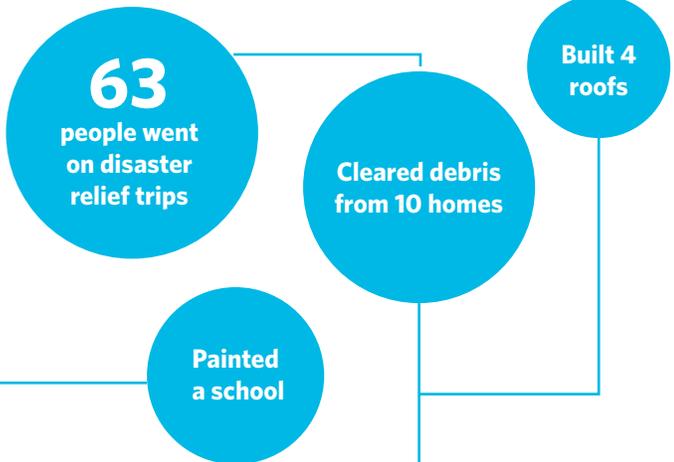
In addition to continuing our global partnerships this year, God provided the means for our church to travel internationally to respond the hurricanes that hit Puerto Rico and Houston.

Athens, Greece

This summer, we served alongside Second Evangelical Church in Koukaki, Athens - a partnership that we have been praying over for three years. We served survivors of trafficking, prepared food for the homeless at one of the largest ports in Greece, shared the Gospel, went on prayer walks, and developed relationships with refugees.

Israel

We continued our partnership with Telos, traveling to Israel & Palestine to learn about peacemaking. This trip was a pilgrimage back to the Holy Land to connect with God in the place where His story unfolded. With the active conflict in this area, the group learned about the many sides of conflict and how difficult and courageous peacemaking is. The group engaged thoughtfully and respectfully with opinions that they didn't all agree with, leading to transformation in a number of individuals. In this part of the world, the most effective 'role' we play is not to go and do, but to go, sit, and listen, and then help educate our own neighbors to be more informed advocates.



• JUST HOMES



JUST HOMES

It has long been on the heart of The District Church to address the city's lack of affordable housing. In November 2017, after a year-long research and discernment process, TDC formally launched its new housing initiative, Just Homes. Over the past year, a team of dedicated volunteers has been shaping the messaging and programming of this initiative, implementing the vision piece by piece.

In June, we held a Vision Night where over 120 people from 20 different churches came together to celebrate the work churches already do in the housing space, and brainstorm ways for other churches to engage. In the coming year, we will walk alongside these churches as they discern how they can contribute to expanding access to affordable housing for low-income D.C. households.

Just Homes exists to equip and mobilize churches to meet the housing needs of their communities. We believe that churches, collectively, have the resources and potential to completely eliminate the gap between need for and availability of affordable housing in D.C. Just Homes has identified unique ways that churches can engage this issue, and provides resources and fellowship to guide them through the process.

...a vision of a just city where everyone has a home...

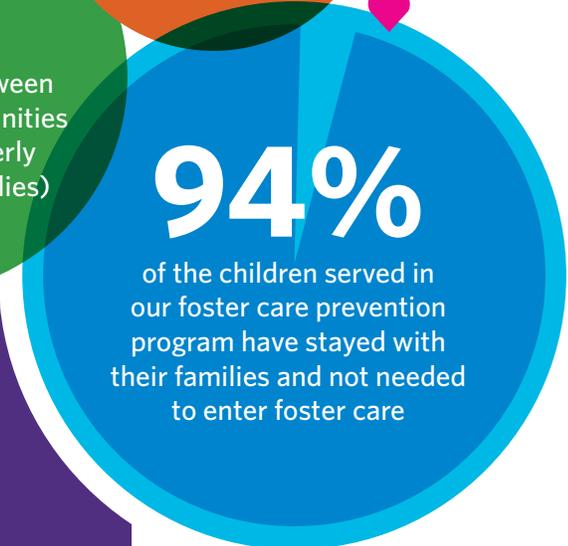


DC127



DC127

Started from The District Church in 2013, DC127 has a mission to reverse the foster care and adoption wait list by providing homes for children in crisis.



- Received a two-year grant from DC Child and Family Services
- Received two grants from Capitol Hill Community Foundation and one from Ruddle Memorial Youth Foundation
- Started partnership with the Archdiocese of Washington and have added partnerships with multiple Catholic churches



Through DC127, a family began fostering an 18-month-old boy. The family received a call that his two older sisters also needed placement, and they also welcomed both of those girls into their home. DC127 is currently working with their church to ensure this family has the support they need as they care for these three children.

Funding is provided through donors & grants from various organizations

LEADERSHIP

The bulk of the ministry in our church is carried out by members of our leadership community – 170+ people in our church in leadership community are those who are leading a small group or ministry team. Our leadership community has committed themselves to the vision, mission, and beliefs of the church and have covenanted together to lead by example and minister faithfully in their area of service. Most of our leaders are serving and leading every week in some capacity at our church. Each January, our leadership community gathers for an annual retreat and then we meet a few other times in the year to vote on the budget, fellowship together, or get updated or provide input to a new initiative.

Our staff is composed of hi-capacity and proven leaders who are called by God to advance the Kingdom through the local church. Each staff member has a specific area of ministry to oversee that is critical to help us achieve our mission as a church. Our staff is focused on ministering to the needs of our congregation and equipping the leaders of our church to carry out the work of the ministry.

We are an elder-ruled and staff-led church. This means that the elders - or what we call our executive board - serve as overseers and help ensure the staff are moving forward in our mission of making disciples and the vision of reaching our city. They do this by ensuring that the churches operates in a financially and legally responsible

way that upholds biblical standards and fits within our values as a church. Most importantly the board, which is comprised of proven leaders within our church, serves as a spiritual covering for the church with an eye always toward our spiritual health as a church community.

This is really good news, because when the weight and responsibility of leadership seems too great, we can remember Jesus' promise that "I will build my church and the gates of hell will not prevail" (Matthew 16:18)

As we talk about church leadership, we are reminded that Jesus is our chief shepherd and that any of us in leadership are simply undershepherds. We are only to build on the foundation that has been laid by Christ. He is our leader and the head of our church.

While our church is non-denominational, we are connected with five associations that we learn from and collaborate with around common mission efforts: NorthStar Network, New Thing Network, Ecclesia Network, Baptist General Association of Virginia, and the Christian Community Development Association.



EXECUTIVE BOARD



Robyn Angley



Michael Li



Josephine Kim



Frank O'Neill

'18-'19 STAFF



Aaron Graham
Lead Pastor



Amy Graham
Pastor of Spiritual Care



Kimberly Williams
Pastor of Worship Arts



This year, we celebrated the ordination of Kimberly Williams, our new Pastor of Worship Arts!



Zannah Jones
Director of Strategic Operations



Vivi Coria Tsapos
Ministry Teams Leader



Claudette Monroy
Operations Manager



Becca Adams
Small Groups Coordinator



Maureen Chaput
Prayer Ministry Leader



Shiri Yadlin
*Just Homes
Housing Coordinator*



Krista Cocozello
Service Coordinator

district fellows

LEARN. LEAD. LOVE.

District Fellows is a one-year ministry intensive designed to equip the next generation of church leaders. Our fellows spend a year living in community in our church ministry house, serving with The District Church family and exploring a greater calling to ministry.



We were so blessed by the work that Jordan Gustafson, our Pastoral Associate, did for our church community during his time in our Leadership Residency program.

- Led disaster relief trips to aid those in Puerto Rico & Houston
- Created three new local outreach partnerships for the District Church
- Led Alpha and multiple small groups
- Discipled and built relationships with several church leaders
- Led DC Writer's Circle, leading to our first published play
- Launched discipleship training for church leaders
- Wrote & compiled Romans Devotional content



Becca Adams
Discipleship Fellow



Krista Cocozello
Worship Arts Fellow



Dennis Mahoney
Outreach Fellow

"District Fellows has given me the opportunity and environment to proactively explore and sharpen my focus on God's calling on my life toward public service. Through real world implementation, an engaging curriculum, and a supportive community I have been able to walk-into the identity I was created for."
- Dennis J. Mahoney



Welcome to our new 2018-2019 District Fellows!
Tee Feyrer, Discipleship Fellow
Krishana Jackson, Hospitality Fellow
Chasity Jordan, Worship Arts Fellow
KyungSun Lee, Outreach Fellow
Madison Miller, Prayer Fellow

Interested in our 2019 - 2020 District Fellows program? Visit districtchurch.org/fellows for more information.

WHAT IS IMPACT DC?

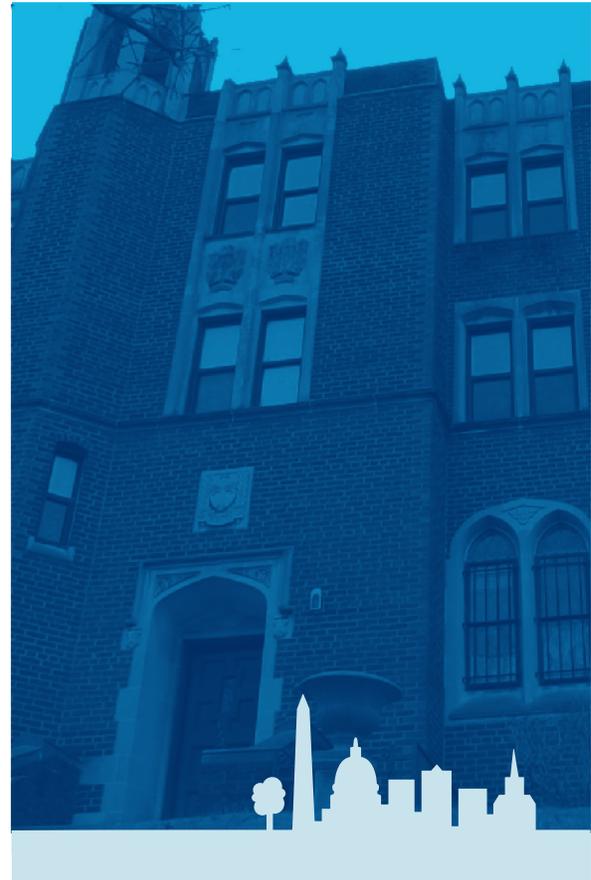
Impact DC is an initiative launched in March 2017 centered around expanding our ministry footprint for a greater impact in our city. We had a huge answer to prayer and were able to purchase a building that will be renovated to create a ministry center to expand our current community efforts and launch new ones. The building is in the Brookland neighborhood of DC and will serve as the ministry base for our multiplication efforts.

The Latest Update

Almost 500 people have given \$1.7 million to our resource initiative called Impact DC which is to expand our ministry footprint in the city. We have started an initial demolition and should begin full construction in Brookland in February. We will be sharing more about this exciting vision with the entire church in March 2019 and along with how you can be a part of making a lasting impact here in DC.

\$1.7 M

To learn more or to give to Impact DC, visit ImpactDC.org





the **district** church
A CHURCH FOR THE CITY

Sundays at 9:45 AM & 11:30 AM
Columbia Heights Educational Campus
3101 16th St, NW
Washington, DC 20010

Church Office *(starting Winter 2019)*
1225 Otis Street NE, Washington DC 20017

www.districtchurch.org



@districtchurch

