

2019

ANNUAL REPORT



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WHO WE ARE

Our Vision

Impacting our city for Christ, one neighborhood at a time

Our Mission

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

Our Values

Worship, Community, and Justice

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,

What a joy it is to serve as your pastor and to hold forth the Word of God each week as we seek to be the hands of Christ in our city.

As you read through this annual report you will see that we have a lot to celebrate from this last year. We have really focused on expanding our discipleship training and developing a deeper culture of prayer in our church and we have seen much fruit in this area. This is at the heart of our mission to make disciples and impact our city for Christ. We have been learning that impacting our city starts with prayer and its starts with us becoming more surrendered to Christ in our lives.

As you open this report, I hope you will see this as an invitation to slow down and give thanks in prayer for what God has done through your generosity and engagement in 2019 at TDC. And my prayer is that you see this report would help you not just look back, but look forward to see how God is inviting you to deepen your relationships through your engagement with TDC in 2020.

For 2020 our emphasis will be on being **Set Apart**. God has called us to be set apart for a purpose. Different from this world around us for the sake of the world around us. We have some great series planned that are on this topic that we believe are really relevant to the questions we are facing in our generation.

As we enter into our 10th year as a church and move into our new ministry center in Brookland we sense that this is going to be a big year for us as a church. We believe God is going to do more than we could ask or imagine. We look forward to continuing to worship on Sundays with you at CHEC and continue meeting in homes for small groups as together we reach Columbia Heights and beyond with the good news of Christ!

Your pastor,



Aaron Graham
Lead Pastor

"Discipleship is at the heart of who we are as Christians; to be a Christian is to be a disciple of Jesus. In addition, Jesus commands us to make disciples of all nations — it is through discipleship that God wants to change this world to look more like His Kingdom."

- Brian Carrier, Director of Discipleship

25
PEOPLE
COMPLETED
ALPHA

Alpha is a series of sessions exploring the Christian faith, held with others that may also have questions about what it means to be a Christian.

**182 members of
leadership community**

24
BAPTISMS

650
GALLONS OF WATER
ARE NEEDED TO FILL
THE BAPTISMAL



Leadership Community

TDC's Leadership Community is made up of those who lead small groups, ministry teams or serve in other leadership functions at our church. This Community serves to carry out the Church's mission, vision and values. God uses these leaders to shape our church more into the likeness of Christ. Each year, we host a two day retreat to pour into the leaders who give so much to our congregation.

Discipleship Trainings

This year, we hosted trainings and educational classes open to our congregation and church leaders with the overall focus on how to live like Christ and teach others to do the same. Some of those were:

- **Essentials** - a class for new believers seeking to know what we believe and why it matters.
- **Contemplative Prayer** - a session on what contemplative prayer is and how to practice it.
- **Bible & Sexuality** - a class for leadership on what the Bible says about sexuality.
- **Genesis** - a 12 week, traditional Sunday school teaching on the book of Genesis.

A photograph of a man with a beard and sunglasses, smiling and talking to a woman and a man outdoors. The man is wearing a light blue button-down shirt. The woman has curly hair and is wearing a grey top. The man on the right is wearing a light blue polo shirt and glasses. They are standing in front of a building with large windows and a sign that says "B...".

“ LEADERSHIP

“The leadership community retreat is where I learned the discipline and importance of prayer. I learned that sometimes you just have to be quiet and hear what God wants to say to you.”

- Camille Gooding

Small Group Leader & Hospitality Team Leader

DISCIPLESHIP IS LEARNING TO BECOME MORE LIKE CHRIST



Thinking More
Like Christ



Loving More
Like Christ



Acting More
Like Christ

DISCIPLESHIP *and* PRAYER

PRIORITIZING PRAYER BY CREATING A CULTURE OF PRAYER



Teaching Us
to Pray



Serving
in Prayer



Creating Space
For Prayer

Monthly prayer nights have been a place where we can gather to pray for our city and our church. Topics have included DC teachers and students, the work on our new ministry center, and prayer for the needs of our congregation and their families.

Pre-service prayer continued this year, meeting each Sunday from 8:45 AM to 9:40 AM. A recent enhancement has been our partnership with the worship team, sharing the auditorium space and praying together each Sunday as we prepare to worship together. This time of prayer is open to anyone in our congregation to join!

Each week during service there are three prayer stations with prayer counselors to pray with people for whatever may be on their heart.

Counseling and Care Recovery Ministry

15

COUPLES MARRIED THIS YEAR

30

COUPLES COMPLETED PREPARE & ENRICH

In January 2020, TDC is launching our new Counseling & Recovery ministries.

The goal of this ministry is to provide healing and support for those who are in need. There are support groups open to those who are struggling or affected by any form of addiction as well as their family and friends. Our aim is to create a safe space where all people affected by various addictions can join together and grow in a Christ-centered community.



Prayer in Action

Just Homes as Educator

In response to a desire from faith communities for leadership in responding to the affordable housing crisis, we developed a book aimed at both faith leaders and congregations. The curriculum answers three primary questions:



What is the challenge with affordable housing in DC?

What is our biblical call to address this challenge?

What practical action steps do we take to respond to that call?

In early 2020, we'll release a resource book for the faith leader audience, which we plan to share with the 20+ churches we've already begun to engage.

The most important asset we have in the fight against housing insecurity is prayer.

In 2019 we also held three Just Homes Prayer Events, where we gathered to pray for our city, for our neighbors experiencing homelessness and displacement, and for an outpouring of God's redemptive and restorative power to go to work in our city.

Small groups are the heart of our church community. We started as a small group 9 years ago, in the living room of our pastors Aaron & Amy Graham, and since then have had dozens of small groups multiplied across the DMV area.

Our small groups support each other through life transitions and difficult times in numerous ways, including providing meals, helping with moving furniture, and going on day-away retreats together. So many of our groups reflect life together in the way Christ intended it to be.



"I love helping others explore the wide range of questions that come from trying to follow Jesus... it is beautiful and worthwhile to see people deepen their relationship with the Lord and with each other."

Nathaniel Shenk
Small Group Leader



Affinity Groups

Affinity Groups act 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.

Each affinity group hosted a heritage month event that served as an opportunity for our entire congregation to hear about the experiences of those in church and to participate in healthy conversations around culture and reconciliation.

New Small Groups Added This Year

- NOMA CO-ED
- SILVER SPRING CO-ED
- TENLEYTOWN CO-ED
- NORTHWEST MARRIED COUPLES GROUP

"What I love most about being a part of a small group is the ability to see and worship with familiar faces on Sunday. I feel less alone because I'm known."

LySaundra Campbell,
Black Women's Small Group

49

OF SMALL GROUPS

90

OF SMALL GROUP LEADERS

812

OF PEOPLE IN SMALL GROUPS



Worship and Prayer at David's Tent

Worship and Prayer Nights are designed to foster times of intimate engagement with God through extended worship. Many people at TDC experience the presence of God through Sunday worship. Worship & Prayer Nights allow another opportunity to encounter the Lord in corporate worship in addition to our weekly gatherings.

Worship Arts Ministries



Production



Stage Crew



Stage Design



Dance



Choir

Top Songs Sung on Sunday

1. "Joy" by VaShawn Mitchell
2. "Come Holy Spirit (Uthando)" by Denise Counihan, Langelihle Mbonambi
3. "Here For You" by Travis Greene

This year Worship Arts started a weekly small group which has helped the team grow relationally, musically and spiritually. Worship Arts also had its inaugural Worship arts retreat. The 3 day retreat was centered around the theme of "discipleship, musicianship and relationship."

Worship Arts Retreat



MOST FREQUENTLY LISTED TO SERMON PODCAST -

"CONFESSIONS OF A HAPPILY MARRIED COUPLE"

by Joshua & Raquel Rogers



Can't make it on Sunday?
Check out our podcast on
iTunes or Google Play.



Sermon Series



JANUARY



FEBRUARY



MARCH - APRIL



MAY



JUNE



JULY



AUGUST - SEPTEMBER



AUGUST



SEPTEMBER - NOVEMBER



DECEMBER

Kids' City

Kids' City is not just childcare but where the next generation learns what it means to be followers of Christ.

Kids' City is the mini-version of our adult church. Third graders and up stay in the sanctuary for worship, then go to their classes, while the younger kids have worship in their classrooms. Our third through fifth graders have also started prayer groups where they can share prayer requests and also pray for one another.

17**# OF BABIES DEDICATED****177****# OF KIDS IN KIDS' CITY****23****# OF KIDS GRADUATED
TO THE NEXT CLASS ON
PROMOTION SUNDAY****12****# OF KIDS IN
YOUTH CITY**

[Jesus] said to them, "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these."

- Mark 10:14





Jeremiah 29:7

"Seek the peace and prosperity of the city to which I have carried you into exile. Pray to the Lord for it, because if it prospers, you too will prosper."

Local Outreach Highlights

TDC's outreach efforts continue to grow, but a couple of highlights from this past year:

Expanded outreach by serving with Jubilee Jobs and L'Arche Communities USA. This has provided additional opportunities to engage with more residents in our neighborhood and live out our values

After plenty of prayer and fellowship, our relational outreach team witnessed a homeless DC resident recover from a skin graft surgery without any pain relief. He continues to share how he's doing with our team

Supported the students, families and educators of CHEC through initiatives like the Beautification Day, Turkey Giveaway, Teacher's Appreciation Day, and helping students with college and scholarship application essays.

Stay tuned for 2020 mission trips, which will be announced in Feb 2020.



Global Outreach

We know that The District Church cannot make disciples of all nations by ourselves so we partner with churches and organizations around the world to support their work toward our shared mission.

This year, people from our church traveled to **India** - serving at Christiana Children's Home, to **Montreal** with our partner La Chapelle - serving in their "I Love Montreal Week", to **Athens** to serve with the Second Evangelical Church, and to **Israel & Palestine** to visit places we have all read about in the Bible and to learn more about issues within the region.





DC127 is our signature outreach ministry, founded by The District Church in 2012. Their mission: bring churches together to ensure the success of every child in foster care and protect those at risk of entering the child welfare system.



DC127's church partners have served over 45 children in our foster care and foster care prevention work in 2019.

In our Communities for Families program, DC127 connects socially isolated families to supportive volunteers. DC127 was put in touch with a grandmother who was raising her two younger grandchildren. She is a leader in her community and helps many but didn't have the support she needed. DC127 connected her to a Host Home, a Community Coach, and a Parent Friend and they have been supporting the grandmother in powerful ways.

When asked about being involved with DC127, the grandmother said, "I am just so amazed that there is a program like DC127... What's so great is that I love [the program] and my children love it too...The thing that helps me the most is that I'm able to get a breather. I have a few days where I can regroup so I can be stronger when my children come home."

17

CHURCH PARTNERS

140

CHILDREN SERVED



We are excited to have **Cynthia Moreland** joining us the new Executive Director for DC127. She is a committed Christian, native Washingtonian, and brings extensive experience in nonprofit leadership and child welfare.





July 1, 2018 - June 30, 2019 (Fiscal Year)

TDC Executive Board and staff engage in a very intentional process determining TDC's budget each year. Staff began the process in January 2019 discerning how God wants them to lead their ministry teams and what financial resources they will need to implement the vision God has given them for the church. The Executive Board reviews the budget and submits to God's guidance in approving the allocation of the budget. Every dollar received and spent is accounted for through a careful record keeping by our staff and accounting firm.

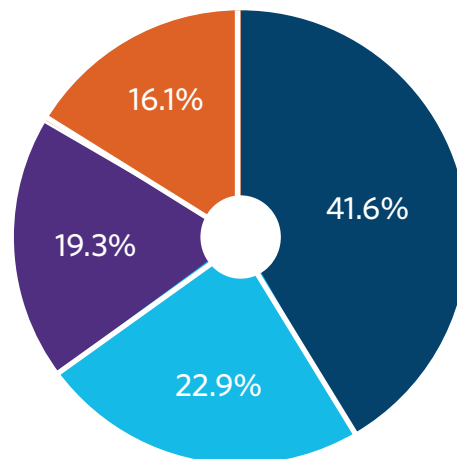
Notes

- Personnel for FY 18/19 included: Lead Pastor, Pastor of Spiritual Care, Pastor of Worship Arts, Director of Strategic Operations, Ministry Teams Leader, Prayer Ministry Lead, Operations Manager, Just Homes Coordinator, Small Groups Coordinator, Service Coordinator, Administrative Assistant and Sound Tech Coordinator.
- Facilities costs include: Columbia Heights Educational Campus, Shaw office, Otis ministry center and Fairmont church ministry house.
- Outreach includes: DC127, Just Homes, Advent, local and global outreach, missions partnerships, network giving and benevolence.
- Net income is set aside for savings and future projects.

Budget Overview 2019 - 2020

- Total Church Personnel
\$792,836
- Total Facilities
\$437,184
- Total Ministry Expenses
\$368,328
- Total Outreach
\$307,500

Total Budget: \$1,905,848



Last Year's Income

General Tithes & Offerings:	\$1,537,999
Total Designated Giving*:	\$181,675
Total Income:	\$1,719,674
Total Expenses:	\$1,402,179
Net Income:	\$317,495

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

Last Year's Expenses

Personnel:	\$542,765
Leadership Development:	\$46,349
Discipleship:	\$52,459
Ministry Teams:	\$63,623
Communications:	\$44,761
Operations:	\$72,909
Facilities:	\$345,584
Outreach:	\$230,885
Miscellaneous:	\$2,843
Total Expenses:	\$1,402,178



WHAT IS IMPACT DC?

We had a huge answer to prayer and were able to purchase a building that is being renovated to create a ministry center to expand our current community efforts and launch new ones. The building is located at 1225 Otis NE in the Brookland neighborhood of DC and will serve as the ministry base for our multiplication efforts.

The Latest Update

This past year has been challenging with construction taking longer than anticipated and having to deal with unforeseen issues with city permits, however God continues to remain faithful in building His church! As of January 2020, construction on the building will be finished and we will prepare to receive our final inspections so we can open the doors of the ministry center!

We want to thank everyone for their generosity, prayers and patience as our project team has worked on managing the construction process. Early in 2020, we will host a grand opening, where everyone will be invited to tour the new building and learn more about how it will be used!

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



**Thanks to all of our volunteers that
came out to help us build furniture
for the new ministry center!**



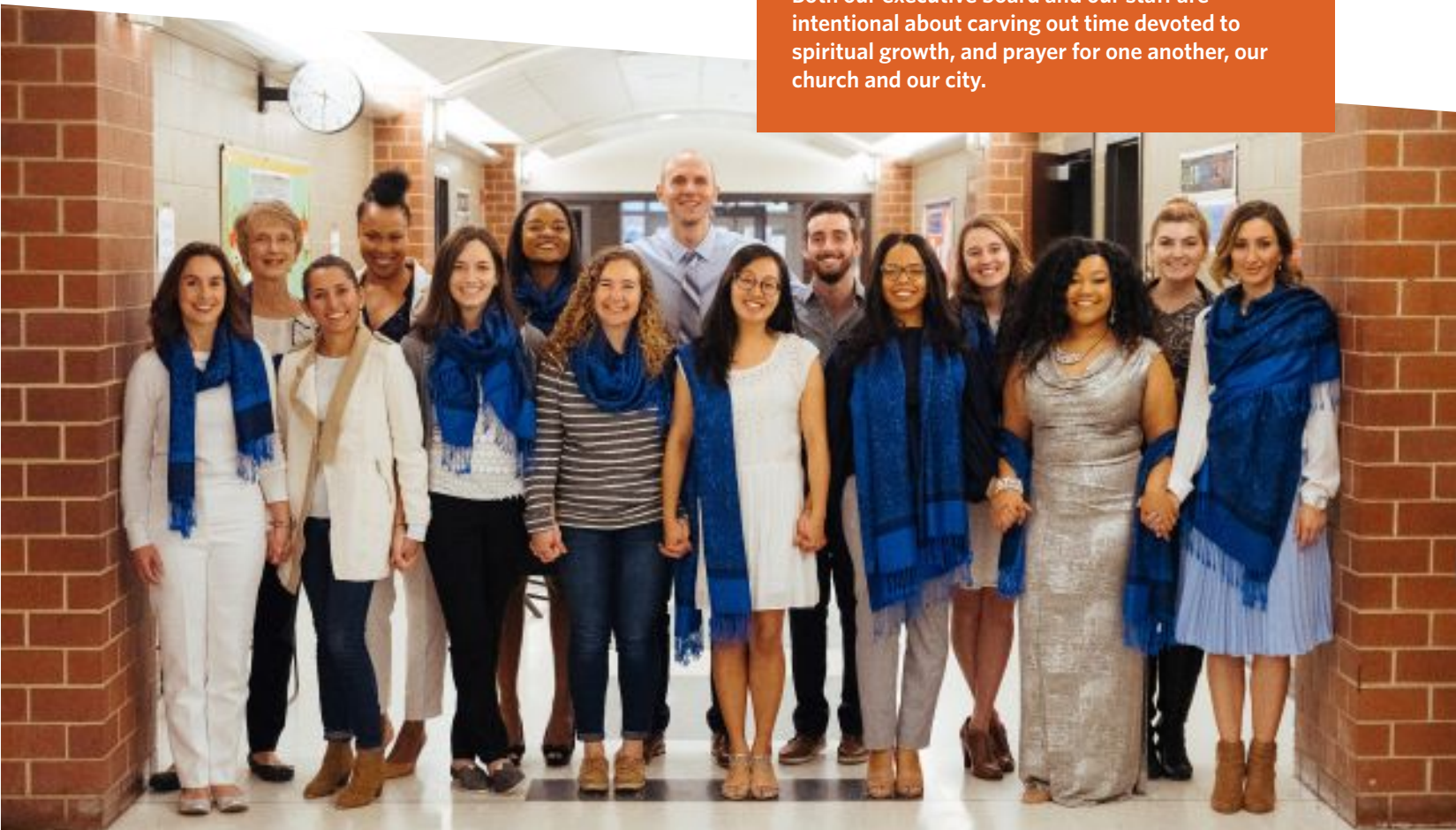
**743 people have given \$2,580,426.27
to Impact DC so far!**



Discipleship and prayer starts with our leaders. We are an elder-ruled and staff-led church. Our executive board serves as overseers and helps ensure the staff are continuing to make disciples and seeking to reach our city for Christ. They do this by ensuring that the church operates in a financially and legally responsible way that upholds biblical standards and fits within our values as a church. Most importantly, the board prays and serves as spiritual covering for our church.

Our staff is composed of talented 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.

Both our executive board and our staff are intentional about carving out time devoted to spiritual growth, and prayer for one another, our church and our city.



Executive Board



Danielle LeStrange



Frank O'Neil



Robyn Angley



Yemi Okunogbe



Camille Gooding



Daniel Van Balen

Pastors



Aaron Graham
Lead Pastor



Amy Graham
Pastor of Spiritual Care



Kimberly Williams
Pastor of Worship Arts

'19-'20 Staff



Zannah Jones
Director of Strategic Operations



Brian Carrier
Director of Discipleship



Maureen Chaput
Director of Prayer



Shiri Yadlin
Director of Just Homes



Vivi Coria
Director of Kids' City & Global Outreach



Kailyn Van Schooten
Interim Operations Coordinator



Moriah Felder
Communications Coordinator



Julia Northrop
Discipleship Coordinator



Luke Taylor
Sound Engineer



Marcus Miller
Outreach Coordinator



Krista Cocozello
Worship Arts Coordinator



Taeksoo Kim
Recovery Ministry Coordinator

We've added new staff to our team!

Brian Carrier, Moriah Felder, Julia Northrop, Luke Taylor, Marcus Miller, Kailyn Van Schooten, Taeksoo Kim



District Fellows

District Fellows is a one-year ministry intensive program designed to equip the next generation of church leaders. Fellows spend a year living in community, working full-time at TDC and going through a curriculum that focuses on spiritual formation and leadership through three different units: **Lead Self, Lead Others and Lead Church**. Fellows had the opportunity to meet with various guest speakers and discuss topics on identity, race, self-care, church multiplication, urban ministry, spiritual gifts and more.

This year TDC was blessed with five amazing fellows that served our church and community.

- Chasity Jordan - Worship Arts Fellow
- KyungSun Lee - Outreach Fellow
- Krishana Jackson - Hospitality Fellow
- Madison Miller - Prayer and Communications Fellow
- Tee Feyrer - Discipleship Fellow

Some of the 2018 - 2019 projects the fellows led and/or implemented at TDC include:

- Created and lead the Essentials class for new believers in our congregation
- Lead medical missions trip to India
- Lead multiple small groups including the new Worship Arts small group and a small group for college students
- Designed a new training for outreach volunteers utilizing foundations of Biblical Justice
- Participated as guest worship leader with Pastor of Worship Arts at Mavuno's Fearless conference in Nairobi, Kenya in May 2019
- Supported TDC staff with God at Work sermon series
- Preached at 2019 Good Friday service, Psalms of Lament sermon series and participated in Living in Community panel in January 2019
- Supported church partner, La Chapelle, during their "Love Montreal" service week
- Served as co-lead for AAPI affinity group
- Trained new prayer counselors and new hospitality volunteers



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

Church Office
1225 Otis Street NE, Washington DC 20017

www.districtchurch.org

   @districtchurch

