



**WE ARE**  
*THE*  
*DISTRICT*  
*CHURCH*

# FROM MEMBERS TO OWNERS

Here at The District Church, we have what we call an ownership process rather than a formal membership process. In the following pages you will see how hundreds and hundreds of people are owning their faith and the mission of the church. You will see how ownership equals impact. Owners at TDC commit to the following:

1

**Worship**  
Regularly

2

**Join** a  
Small  
Group

3

**Serve** on  
a Ministry  
Team

4

**Give**  
Consistently



DEAR CHURCH,

Since our church started six years ago, I have ended most services praying Ephesians 3:20-21:

*“Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen.”*

I am in awe again this year at the work that God has been doing **in us**:

- + The increased number of people are trusting in Christ, many for the first time.
- + The way you are taking responsibility to care for your souls in this fast paced city.
- + The depth of people’s prayer lives and what this has ignited in our church.

I am in awe again this year at the work that God has been doing **through us**.

The year, we have surpassed \$1 million given away since we started the church, to help the poor, plant new churches, and advance God’s justice mission locally in DC and beyond.

The tangible love you are showing the teachers and students at Columbia Heights Educational Campus and Miner Elementary is becoming a national model for successful church-school partnerships.

I could go on and on, but that’s the point of this report!

I hope that as you read through this, you will join us in giving thanks to God for the good work he has begun in us. We are often focused as a church on looking forward to future visions. But this report helps us look back. To stop and give thanks for all that God has already done in and through us.

For those of you who are checking us out for the first time, I pray that you would sense God’s presence and invitation to join us in this mission of impacting our city, one neighborhood at a time.

Together with Christ,

Aaron Graham  
Lead Pastor

## SMALL GROUPS

“THROUGH [MY] SMALL GROUP I’VE REMAINED ENCOURAGED IN MY FAITH. I HAVEN’T WALKED AWAY.”



52  
GROUPS  
TOTAL

“IT’S BEEN MY FIRST TIME BEING A PART OF A CHURCH OF SMALL GROUPS AND IT’S BEEN GREAT TO GROW TOGETHER IN COMMUNITY WITH PEOPLE OF OTHER CULTURES AND BACKGROUNDS.”

## 675 PEOPLE IN GROUPS

“SMALL GROUP HAS REALLY PUSHED ME TO GO DEEPER IN MY FAITH AND TO BE VULNERABLE WITH FELLOW BELIEVERS.”

### **Why God** *We Ask Questions*

**Why God** is a relaxed, free dinner followed by a discussion on the core components of the **Christian faith**. Held at the Fairmont ministry house, it is open to the doubting, the skeptical, and the downright unbelieving - non-Christians & Christians alike. This year saw the group grow to 30 people.

## BAPTISM *Proclaiming Faith*



18  
BAPTISMS  
THIS YEAR



## Little Disciples *Kids' City*



### KIDS' CITY MISSION

We are committed to creating a safe and fun environment for children to know, love, and follow Christ!

8

# of  
Babies  
dedicated  
at TDC

#### Columbia Heights:

Layna Mendoza,  
Naomi Ono, Alejandro  
Ferrer, Sadie Tallo,  
Eden Rollet

#### East Side:

Joaquin Nations,  
Kathryn Smith,  
Mirabai Breitenberg

"I told my friends about Kids' City and I invited them to come because it's awesome." — MICHAELA, 8 YEARS OLD

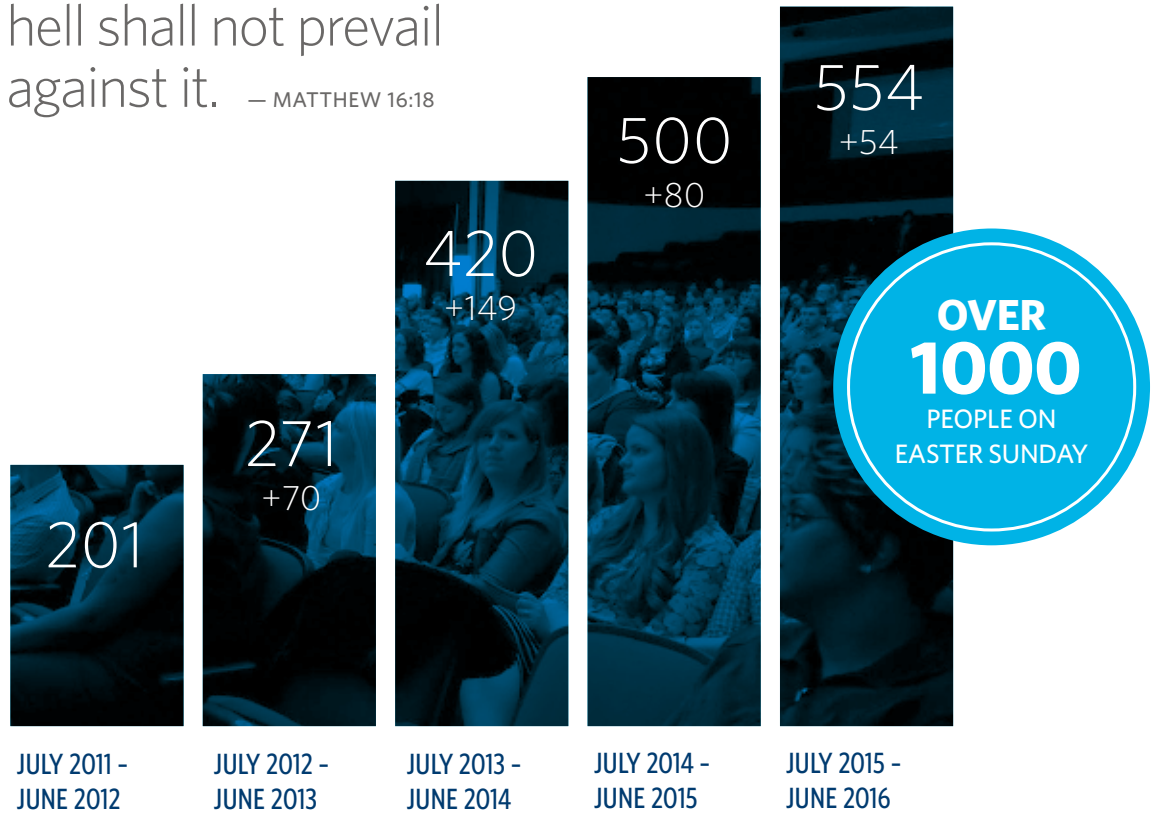


"My kids love attending Kids' City and are quite disappointed when they cannot attend. Kids' City has been instrumental in fostering genuine interest in learning about and getting to know the Lord for Carter."

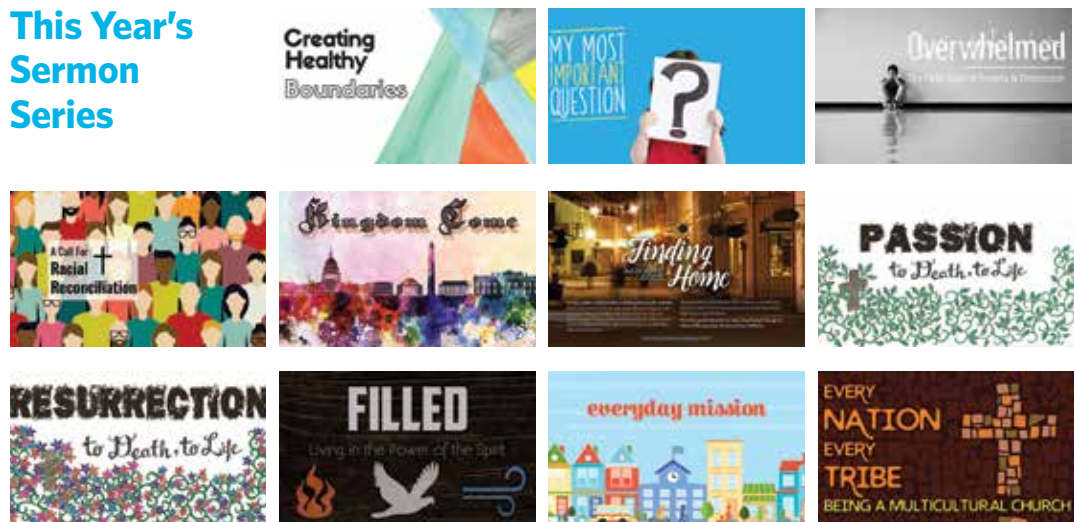
— MARY DOUGLAS

**ATTENDANCE** *Average for Both Parishes*

I will build my church,  
and the gates of  
hell shall not prevail  
against it. — MATTHEW 16:18



**This Year's Sermon Series**



## Columbia Heights Parish *A Call to Worship Together*

**This last year we were blessed to have Kimberly Williams join our staff as worship leader!** Kimberly has done a great job of helping take us to deeper levels in musical worship together as a congregation as we gather. It has been wonderful to see our band grow and to see people more and more engaged during our weekly gatherings!

Our relationship with Columbia Heights Educational Campus (CHEC) has really grown this last year. Principal Tukeva and her entire staff have been so welcoming to us and it has truly become a partnership. We are excited to be partnering with the school on so many levels and to have so many of you now regularly serving at the school!

We are celebrating how God has helped us to become more diverse racially as a church this last year. We have almost 60 nations represented in our church which we believe is a little glimpse of heaven!

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## East Side Parish *A Church for the Neighborhood*

**As we look back at the last year, these stories highlight the way that God is using our church in the life of the neighborhood and in the lives of those that call the East Side Parish home.** As a church, we are remarkably young; our median age is in the mid to late twenties and we continue to be a magnet for young professionals and even a growing number of young families and we celebrate that! Yet, as we look around our room on Sunday morning we see a lack of older adults and senior citizens.

In an effort to step towards being a church that embodies the multi-textured diversity of our community we began reaching out to a few of the retirement communities in Ward 6. We finally found reception with a community of senior citizens just off of H St in Northeast. I remember the first time I walked in to a social event at the facility, one delightful and dignified woman in her mid-70's came up to me, grabbed me by my shoulders, said, "I'm Ms. Harper and I'm the prayer warrior for this place. I've been praying for you!". It was a remarkable meeting and one in which we began to realize that God was already at work and was simply inviting us to join him.

Another highlight this past year has been God cementing our relationship with Miner Elementary School. For the past 3 years, Dr. Evans served as the principal at Miner Elementary School and has been a faithful advocate for the students, teachers and for our church. When she would introduce me or anyone from the District Church, she'd say, "they are our church". At different times in the last year, Miner has called upon The District Church for support, prayers, advocacy and celebration. We have been one of the central suppliers of volunteers for Miner, providing childcare during the Miner Parent Teacher Organization (PTO) meetings and catering teacher appreciation brunches. This has allowed us to meet and pray for students and 60+ staff at Miner Elementary School. This year, Dr. Evans retired and I was asked to speak at her retirement in order to celebrate her 25 years of service. We thank God for all the has done and look forward to much more on the East Side.

## Guest Speakers

### COLUMBIA HEIGHTS

#### My Most Important Question:

Sylveta Brown, Brian Carrier, Beverly Lwenya, Jenn Nichols, Frank O'Neill, Ben Runyon

#### A Call to Racial Reconciliation

**Panel:** Asa Briggs, Justin Fung, Chris Latondresse, Beverly Lwenya, Lisa Rodriguez Watson

#### Guest Speakers:

Mark Charles  
Dr. Chris Backert  
Don Coleman  
Stuart McAlpine  
Muriithi Wanjau  
Curt Rhodes  
Sylveta Brown  
Rich Nathan  
Kevin Nderitu  
Councilmember Brianne Nadeau  
JR Woodward  
Jim Wallis  
David Bailey  
Chris Williamson  
Principal Maria Tukeva

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### EAST SIDE

#### My Most Important Question:

Carolyn Fung, Justin Henry, Jacqueline Lee-Baxter, Beverly Lwenya, Adam Nations, Raessa Singh

#### A Call to Racial Reconciliation

**Panel:** Asa Briggs, Beverly Lwenya, Karen Lee, Lisa Rodriguez Watson

#### Guest Speakers:

Thabiti Anyabwile  
Erin Clifford  
Thom Wolf  
Greg Jackson  
Jaqueline Lee-Baxter  
Tommy O'Keefe  
Jonathan Brooks

## TDC SERVES *Ministry Teams Grow*



**This year we had our 2nd Annual TDC Serves volunteer drive.** We saw an amazing response in both parishes of people saying yes to serving. Since we are a portable church, we wouldn't be able to do what we do on Sundays without the countless hours and dedication from our volunteers each week. We also saw the Prayer

and Outreach ministry at TDC ignite, thanks to new team leaders Maureen Chaput and Bryan Franklin at Columbia Heights and Melissa O'Keefe and Dorothy Buckner at East Side. On behalf of the congregation, staff, executive board and pastors, we say thank you for serving!

126

**Total # of people from both parishes who signed up for a Ministry Team during our TDC Serves Campaign in April**



### Prayer Columbia Heights

**Expansion and increase have characterized the Columbia Heights Prayer Team since January of 2016.** We expanded to 17 prayer ministers and added 7 Sunday Leads who share the responsibility for overseeing prayer ministry with the team leader. Our ministry activities now include weekly pre-service prayer, outreach activities such as prayer walks, street ministry, training days and two short-term small groups focused on prayer. We also volunteered and participated in Together 2016, a national prayer gathering. The team is growing in understanding the work of the Holy Spirit, faith and seeing more and more answered prayers. As we continue in this calendar year, we will continue building relationships with the East Side Prayer Team and with other prayer ministries in DC. We will also continue praying for TDC and the larger DMV community. Join us in praying for the increasing presence and power of God in our midst.



## Outreach Wins from Columbia Heights

**This has been an exciting year for Outreach in Columbia Heights, as we continue to explore what it means to be a church that exists for Christ and the renewal of our city, within the Columbia Heights community.** We expanded our relationship with Samaritan Inns, a local homeless and addiction recovery organization, where we now run monthly worship services and provide dinner for residents the 4th Sunday of every month.

At the same time, TDC continues to grow its relationship with The Columbia Heights Initiative, a nonprofit organization with a mission of enriching the quality of life within CoHi by creating local events and programming for residents and visitors to connect and celebrate. Earlier this year TDC handed out over 1,000 ice cream bars on Columbia Heights Day.

Looking forward, we're excited to continue to grow our relationship with the school we meet in Columbia Heights Educational Campus (CHEC). August 2016 marks two years since we held our first service at the school, and it's been amazing to see the partnership grow from simply renting a space to now engaging with school leadership, teachers and students. This coming year, TDC is looking to launch three after school/Saturday morning clubs, as a way to engage with teachers and students through common interest and hopefully opening the door for further mentorship and tutoring.

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## Outreach Wins from East Side

**East Side Parish Outreach has continued to strengthen and deepen relationships with our surrounding community.**

This year, we have had opportunity to connect with the larger Rosedale Community Center and H Street area. At the H Street Festival, the East Side Parish handed out over 1,000 ice cream cones. We also were invited to participate in the Halloween Party at Rosedale Community Center where we had over twenty TDC volunteers painting faces and playing games with children. We also have begun exploring a relationship with the senior members of our community at Capitol Hill Towers Independent Living Facility. This coming year, we will continue to work in our neighborhood as well as support our long term partners such as DC127 and the Playtime Project. We are also excited to look out at the larger community and see what new areas of outreach and partners in new neighborhoods may be in store for the East Side. This coming year, we will continue to work in our neighborhood as well as support our long term partners such as DC127 and the Playtime Project. We are also excited to look out at the larger community and see what new areas of outreach and partners in new neighborhoods may be in store for the East Side.



## Prayer East Side

**With a fresh wind of the spirit, the ES Prayer Team had a powerful year of one-on-one ministry, corporate intercession and outreach.**

Newly established rhythms of pre-service prayer were incorporated into Sunday morning set-up so that the team now shares scriptures and words of encouragement about what God is speaking with the ministry teams and congregation. Encounter Nights held in May were a big highlight as parish members gathered to soak in God's presence and practice operating in the gifts of the Spirit. The team brought on board five new Prayer Counselors who are taking initiative to build

out the ever-growing ministry response time during the services and to carry the power of prayer out into the streets through prayer walks.

**SOCIAL MEDIA**



**9,310**  
LIKES



**1,362**  
FOLLOWERS



**464**  
FOLLOWERS

**TDC Launches We Are The District Church Video:**



**An anonymous connection card doodle:**



**# of Newcomers at TDC:**

**727**  
COLUMBIA HEIGHTS

**125**  
EAST SIDE



**# of people served at Newcomers Dinners and Lunches:**

**234**  
COLUMBIA HEIGHTS

**67**  
EAST SIDE

“I never want someone to come visit TDC and not feel genuinely welcomed from the moment they walk through the front door. In DC, there’s a culture of individuality, so it’s nice to be able to offer someone a handshake, a seat, or a cup of coffee to say, ‘I see you, and I am glad you’re here.’”

— MARI LOWE, HOSPITALITY TEAM

**Special Events**



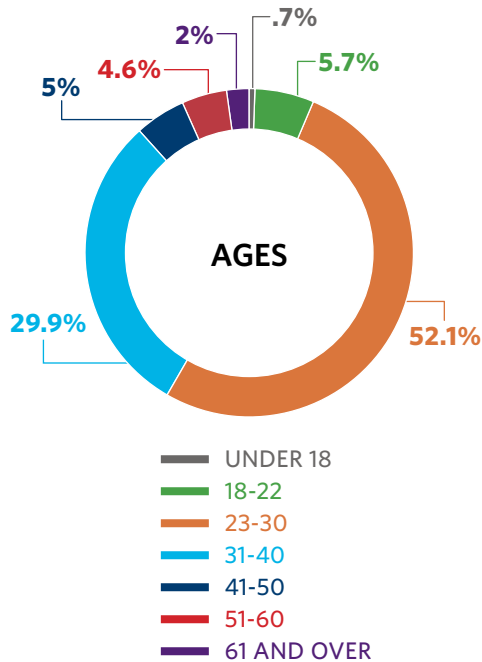
LEFT TO RIGHT, TOP ROW: Seeking Refuge Book Talk and Panel, World Relief Advent Offering, TDC Rooftop Social  
LEFT TO RIGHT, BOTTOM ROW: Asian American + Race Reconciliation Talk, Good Friday (Columbia Heights), Urban Doxology Concert

## TDC Survey Results

731 RESPONDENTS TO THE 2016 SURVEY

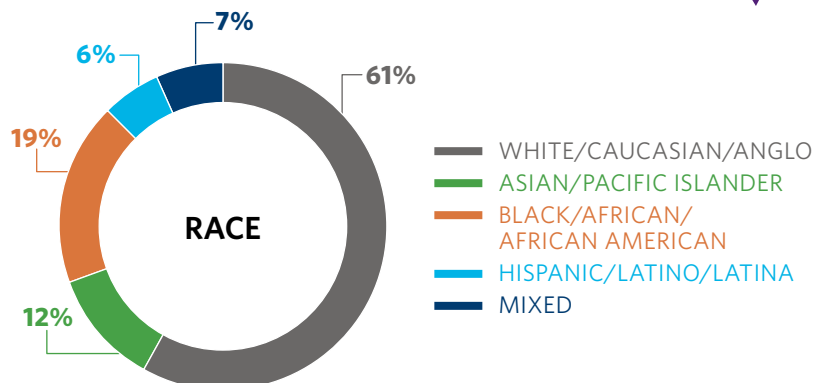
### Ages

Nearly 60% (58%) of the church is thirty years old or under, and roughly half (52%) of the church is between 23 and 30 years old. 88% of the church is under the age of 40.



### Race

There has been a notable increase (by 8 percentage points) from 11% to 19% of Black/African/African American church attendees since 2014.



**62%**  
SINGLE

**33%**  
MARRIED

TDC includes people from **55 different countries** and **49 different states** of origin!

### Spiritual Growth and involvement

**66%** participated in a small group during the last year

**91%** said they experienced spiritual growth over the last year

PEOPLE INVOLVED IN A **SMALL GROUP** IN THE PAST YEAR WERE:

**2 times** more likely to have experienced "much growth" in their faith compared to those not involved in a small group.

**4 times** more likely to have increased their involvement in the church over the last year compared to people not involved with a small group.

**5 times** more likely to attend Sunday services every week (or more).

**9 times** more likely to have volunteered at TDC compared to those not involved in small group.



## Advent 2015

**In December we raised a record \$112,000 through your generosity in one month!** We were able to focus on addressing two main needs: 1) affordable housing particularly for the homeless in DC and 2) the Syrian refugee crisis.

Through your generosity, we were able to give:

- + **\$30,000 to Samaritan Inns**, an addiction recovery ministry to help them renovate a home for women on Fairmont St.
- + **\$35,000 to Questscope**, who is helping support refugees in Syria and Jordan.
- + **\$20,000 to World Relief**, who is providing care for refugees here in the U.S.
- + **\$15,000 to help provide relief**, to those in our own church who are experiencing homelessness and the refugee crisis. We were even able to sponsor the visa for a Syrian refugee in our church!
- + **\$12,000 to support missionaries**, in our church who are leading ministries to care for the homeless and refugees.

**TOTAL RAISED: \$112,000**

## Pentecost 2016 *Helping Plant New Churches*

**For the past two years at The District Church, we take up a special offering that is devoted exclusively to the work of beginning new churches.** We do this on Pentecost Sunday, the birthday of the global church as recorded in the Book of Acts.

This year, we raised \$26,370 and distributed it to five new churches that are in their early stages. We want these churches to know that we are in their corner, cheering them on and praying them forward as they sow gospel seeds trusting that a Kingdom harvest is just up ahead. The churches that we supported through the Pentecost Offering are varied, some are Baptist churches, some are non-denominational, some located in the greater DMV area, others are on international shores. Yet the common thread among them all is that they are faithfully proclaiming and demonstrating the love of God. Please join us in continuing to pray for the work of these churches and that they would sense God's abiding presence with them as they grow.

**TOTAL RAISED: \$26,370**



**PRAY FOR**  
**Restoration Church,**  
**Gaithersburg, MD**  
**launching October 2016!**

### Churches supported through TDC's Pentecost Offering:



**CITY CHURCH**  
 Montreal, Canada  
 .....



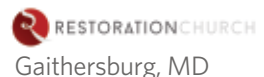
**la Chapelle**  
 Montreal, Canada  
 .....



**COMMON GROUND**  
 Jackson, MS  
 .....



**MAVUNO**  
 Nairobi Kenya  
 .....



**RESTORATION CHURCH**  
 Gaithersburg, MD

## Financial Highlights

JULY 1, 2015 - JUNE 30, 2016 (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 prudent 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

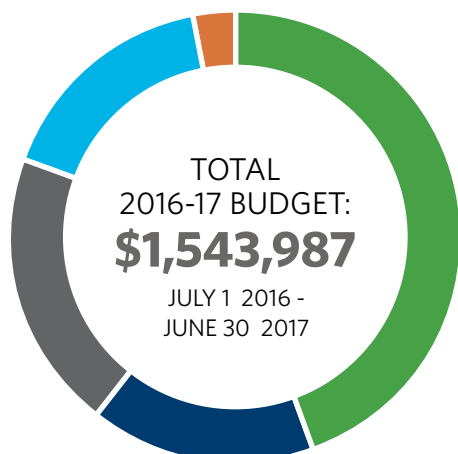
General Tithes & Offerings	\$1,214,804
Designated Giving	\$260,408
<b>Total Giving</b>	<b>\$1,475,212</b>

\*\*Designated giving includes: DC127, Advent Offering, Pentecost Offering, Leadership Residents & District Renewal Fund

## \$1 Million Given Away

Through your generosity, we have given away over \$1 million to care for the poor, plant new churches, and advance God's justice mission locally in DC and beyond since we began six years ago.

### THIS YEAR'S BUDGET



\$685,042	—	TOTAL CHURCH PERSONNEL
\$247,260	—	TOTAL FACILITIES
\$314,285	—	TOTAL MINISTRY EXPENSES
\$252,400	—	TOTAL OUTREACH
\$45,000	—	TOTAL SAVINGS & EXPANSION

Average weekly giving needed = \$29,692.06.  
Average weekly giving needed per person = \$56.13.

### Last Year's Expenses

Personnel	\$548,660
Leadership Development	\$50,238
Discipleship	\$23,788
Ministry Teams	\$74,766
Communications	\$35,557
Operations	\$65,877
Facilities	\$231,622
Outreach	\$267,465
Miscellaneous	\$7,157
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$1,305,129</b>
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>\$1,475,212</b>
<b>NET INCOME</b>	<b>\$170,083</b>

### Notes

- + All numbers include both Columbia Heights & East Side parishes
- + Personnel includes: Lead Pastor, East Side Pastor, Pastor of Teaching & Formation, Pastor of Spiritual Care, Worship Leader, Director of Operations, Small Groups Director, Communications Coordinator, Kids' City Leadership, Residents and Fellows.
- + Ministry teams include: Hospitality, Kids' City, Worship, Production, Visual Arts, and Prayer.
- + Facility rentals include: CHEC, Miner Elementary, Next Step PCS, and Church Office.
- + Outreach includes: DC127, Advent & Pentecost offerings, local/global projects, mission partnerships, network giving, and benevolence.
- + Net Income is set aside for savings and future expansion.

## THE VALUE OF SOUL CARE



### **At the District Church, Soul Care is one of our strategic priorities.**

We are trying to focus more on who we are becoming than what we are accomplishing. We have made it a strategic priority because if we don't, it's very likely that it would not happen in our fast paced city. Our staff strategically models out this priority by individually taking three prayer days a year to ensure that we have a day set aside where we are intentionally connecting with God, reflecting on our lives and hearing God speak to us. In addition, we encourage our staff and congregation to have a SPIRE Plan, which is each person's way of caring for their Spiritual, Physical, Intellectual, Relational and Emotional needs. All together, these different parts of who we are make up our soul.

Knowing that caring for our soul must also be done in community, we journey together in small groups as a way to stay relationally connected to one another and to God. As a church, we also offer spiritual guidance and counseling, with both individuals and couples, that help those in our community care for their souls. We are all on a journey of faith with Jesus and we don't want anyone to get stuck or journey alone.



### **COUNSELING RESOURCES**

We regularly offer the Prepare and Enrich Marriage Workshops where couples are trained in the art of listening and communication. It is our hope and desire to support and encourage these couples as they pursue their relationships, be it dating, engaged or married. Premarital Counseling is the place where we typically meet with couples for at least 3 sessions,

using the Prepare and Enrich assessment, to help guide, coach and prepare couples for the journey of marriage. This past summer we had our first ever Marriage Retreat, where ten couples joined us over the course of three days, to learn from counselor Stephen James about how to weather the storms of life well with their spouse. As couples we had the opportunity to evaluate, reflect and work on our marriages in very intentional and practical ways. We also had really lovely opportunities to date our spouses in the beautiful setting of Annapolis, MD where there's ice cream parlors every few feet!

We are very excited to have Stacey Schwenker join us as a counselor on staff in this 2016-2017 year. Stacey is trained as a Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist and with her training and expertise, it allows us to expand our ability to see individuals and couples who would like to pursue the healing of their soul through counseling.

Our hope as a church is that we would all be intentional about caring for our souls. We are committed to offering resources, opportunities and experiences that help our souls be fed.

Amy Graham, *Pastor of Spiritual Care*



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. DC127 is now working with 15 official partner churches in DC! [www.dc127.org](http://www.dc127.org)



“DC127 also rocks and is a great representation of what the church should be doing to serve those in need.”

## DC127

**The Smith family knew they wanted to grow their family, but facing countless outlets and resources about adoption and foster care, they didn't know where to begin.** The vast quantity of information, the types of adoption, confusion around costs—all of this seemed overwhelming and confusing. DC127, with experience supporting families precisely in this position, was able to assist the



Smith Family. After meeting with DC127 staff, the Smith Family understood the different adoption processes and felt more certain in their decision to enter foster care. DC127 staff personally walked the family through the licensing process, answered questions, helped with frustrations, and even recruited volunteers to clean

their house to prepare for the lead test—a crucial and difficult part of the foster care licensing process. With this multitude of supports, the Smith Family was able to complete the process and began caring for children who needed short-term foster placements until they could return to their biological families. To date, the Smith Family has been able to care for two young children, and recently began caring for a newborn baby. Today, they are committed to being an open and available foster home for children in the District of Columbia.



## MISSIONS

**Last year, we purchased several dozen navy blue shirts that we would give to baptism candidates to wear on the day of their baptism.**

On the front, the shirt simply had the District Church logo. On the back stood the phrase, "A Church for the City". When we say yes to Jesus, and when we are baptized, we are baptized into a community of faith, a community that is global, historic and deeply local. We are indicating, in our baptism, that an internal, spiritual change has happened and no longer are we far from God, no longer are we left on our own, but we have been brought very near to God through Christ and we are now citizens of his kingdom.

Our local expression of that citizenship, as the front of the shirt says, is The District Church. However, our baptism doesn't only display our change in identity - from lost to found, from sinner to saved - but it is also our commissioning to join God in his work in our world. That's the backside message of the shirt. Our baptism, and our baptism shirts, remind us that God saved us and he saved us for a purpose, for a mission.

Even as we've deepened our roots within the footprints of our local parishes, we also engage nationally and internationally, because what happens nationally and globally has impact on H Street and in Columbia Heights. To that end, we've hosted ministry teams from churches such as Lake Pointe Church (Rockwall, TX) and Living Hope Church (Memphis, TN). These churches and others have come along side us in ministry to help provide coaching and encouragement. This was most clearly displayed during our first vacation Bible school in which Lake Pointe coached us through the process, offered technical assistance, and sent a small team to show us the ropes as we held our first ever Kids Games Camp at Miner Elementary School.



Chris and Jade Woodruff



Kate Denson and Vivian Young

Globally, we commissioned our first long term international missionaries, Chris and Jade Woodruff. The Woodruffs lead a ministry called Life Raft, based in Bangkok, Thailand which ministers to Pakistani Christians fleeing persecution. Their work is a reflection of God's compassion

for the nations and God's heart of care for refugees. We continue to support the work of Kate Denson and Vivian Young who minister to college students at George Washington University and beyond through InterVarsity Christian Fellowship.

All of these expressions of outreach and mission are an extension of our desire to be a church for the city. And that desire is deeply intertwined with the realization that Jesus rescued us and continues to seek and save the ones that are lost.

Matthew Watson



# WHAT'S NEXT

**Our lease is up on our current office space in Shaw and they are going to turn it into condos, so we are in the process of looking for a new home by next summer.**

Please join us in praying that we can find a ministry center type space that can help us advance as many of these God-sized dreams as possible!

## GOD-SIZED DREAMS

We believe God has called us to each of these endeavors. However, each will require God-sized resources. Will you join us in praying for each of these areas?

- 1 Plant more parishes:** Pray for God to reveal to us the specific neighborhood in DC we are to plant in next. Ask God to raise up our next pastor, as well as a team of small group and ministry team leaders, who will lead us.
- 2 Affordable Housing:** Pray for the vision and resources for us to be able to start an affordable housing ministry to help care for the 76,000+ people in our city on a waitlist for housing.
- 3 Leadership Pipeline:** Pray for us as we expand our "District Fellows" program this year and are looking to recruit people who would be willing to give a year of service to our church and city.
- 4 Recovery Ministry:** Pray for our church to be known as a place where the sick can come for healing; for a willingness in our church to admit our powerlessness over addictions and unhealthy relationships and to get help; for lay counselors to be trained; for support groups, partnerships with professional counselors, and a recovery gathering.
- 5 Reverse the List:** Through birthing DC127, we are focused on the day when there will be no more children waiting for families, but rather families waiting for children. We want churches in DC rise up to take a lead in opening their homes to adopt, foster, or become host homes to care for children and families in crisis here in our city.



## Learning to Live

This Fall, pray for us as we take the whole church through a 10-week discipleship curriculum that we wrote under Pastor Justin's leadership, called **Learning to Live**. Pray that, as people spend time daily with God and in small groups, God would ignite a fire within each of us to better know God's Word and his purpose for each of our lives!

## LEADERSHIP

**We are an elder-ruled and staff-led church, meaning that the elders — or what we call our executive board —** hold the staff accountable to make sure the mission and vision are achieved in a financially and legally responsible way that upholds biblical standards and fits within our values as a church. Our staff and leadership community of small group leaders and ministry team leaders carry out and lead the bulk of the ministry.

While our church is non-denominational, we are connected with four associations that we learn from and collaborate with for common mission: New Thing Network, Ecclesia Network, BGAV / V3, and the Christian Community Development Association.



As a staff this year we have been focusing on five strategic priorities: Please join us in prayer as we seek to deepen our impact in these five areas as a church.

**+ We care for our souls:** We want to maintain our focus more on who we are becoming than what we are accomplishing, knowing that we cannot separate the health of the minister from the health of the ministry.

**+ We clarify our discipleship process:** We want to make it clear how someone can follow Jesus and help others follow Jesus here in DC through the ministry of TDC.

**+ We become more intentionally diverse:** We want to build on our growing diversity to even more intentionally become a church that looks like heaven and acts like Jesus.

**+ We expand our neighborhood presence:** We want to form deeper partnerships and relationships on the neighborhood level through our local parishes and small groups.

**+ We deepen our volunteer engagement:** We want to improve the ways we recruit, train, and celebrate our volunteers.

We are always focused on advancing our mission of discipleship and reaching our city, but these strategic priorities are crucial for us to focus on to help us more faithfully live out this mission.

## Our Team



Michael Li



Ashley Moore



Robyn Angley



Asa Briggs



Aaron Graham



Matthew Watson



Amy Graham



Justin Fung



Anna Hurley



Kimberly Williams



Jordan Wilson



Beverly Lwenya



Andrea Ackermann



Jenn Nichols



Vivi Coria



Josh Kersey



Erick Brown



Zach Woodard



Melissa O'Keefe



Maureen Chaput



Bryan Franklin



Nikki Wiggins



Stacey Schwenker



Raessa Singh

### Executive Board

Michael Li  
Ashley Moore  
Robyn Angley  
Asa Briggs  
Aaron Graham

### Staff

Aaron Graham, *Lead Pastor (reports to Executive Board)*  
Matthew Watson, *East Side Parish Pastor*  
Amy Graham, *Pastor of Spiritual Care*  
Justin Fung, *Pastor of Teaching & Formation*  
Anna Hurley, *Director of Operations*

Jenn Nichols, *Small Groups Director*  
Kimberly Williams, *Worship Leader*  
Beverly Lwenya, *Communications Coordinator*  
Jordan Wilson, *Production Team Leader, Columbia Heights Parish*  
Andrea Ackermann, *Administrator, East Side Parish*  
Nikki Wiggins, *Kids' City Leader, East Side Parish*  
Stacey Schwenker, *Counselor, LMFT*

### District Fellows

Zach Woodard, *Creative Arts*  
Bryan Franklin, *Outreach*

### Ministry Team Leaders

#### COLUMBIA HEIGHTS PARISH

Creative Arts: Beverly Lwenya  
Hospitality: Anna Hurley  
Kids' City: Vivi Coria  
Outreach: Bryan Franklin  
Prayer: Maureen Chaput  
Production: Jordan Wilson  
Stage Setup: Todd Holtzman  
Worship: Kimberly Williams

#### EAST SIDE PARISH

Creative Arts: Zach Woodard  
Hospitality: Josh Kersey, Raessa Singh  
Kids' City: Nikki Wiggins  
Outreach: Melissa O'Keefe  
Prayer: Kandace Levy, Krissa Webb  
Production: Erick Brown  
Stage Setup: Lisa Wischkaemper  
Worship: Andrea Ackerman

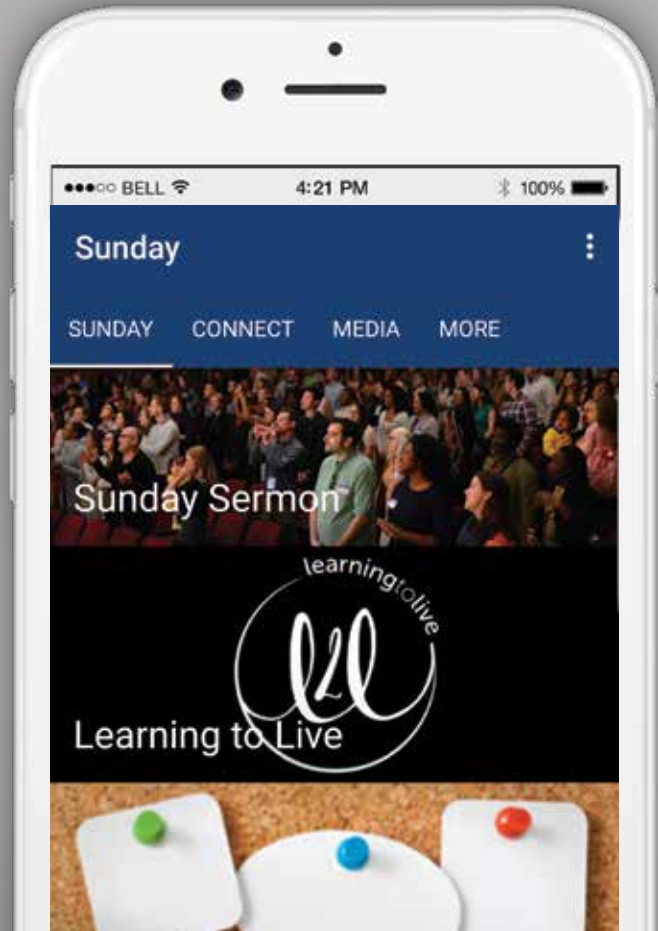
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### COLUMBIA HEIGHTS PARISH

10:00 AM & 11:30 AM

Columbia Heights Educational Campus  
3101 16th St NW  
Washington, DC 20010

### EAST SIDE PARISH

10:30 AM

Miner Elementary School  
601 15th St NE  
Washington, DC 20002

### CHURCH OFFICE

1616 7th St NW  
Washington, DC 20001

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