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The District Church  
ANNUAL REPORT



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MULTICULTURAL  
CHURCH**

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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, 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

# LETTER FROM PASTORS

## District Church,

Jesus proclaimed 2,000 years ago that he would build his church and that the gates of hell would not prevail. Our church is a testimony of this promise! There have been so many challenges we have faced, and yet we have seen the faithfulness of God each step of the way.

We have been moved by the resilience of our small group leaders who have fought to keep people engaged in the face of social isolation. We have been stirred by the relentless commitment of our staff team to pull off reopening the church. We have been humbled by the godly leadership of our Executive Board who serve as overseers. And have been energized by the newcomers who have jumped right in and have already begun serving.

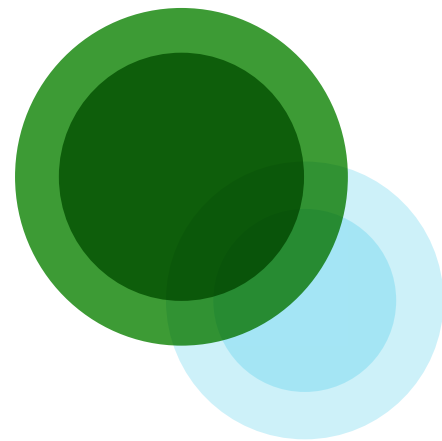
We believe these last couple years of testing are preparation for what God wants to do through us in the years ahead. We believe we are on the eve of some amazing miracles in the days ahead.

Thanks for taking the time to read this report and celebrate with us a few highlights of what God has done in our community this last year!

With Love,



**Pastors Aaron & Amy Graham**





# CELEBRATING 2021!

## Online Church

we began the year with continuing to meet online as the pandemic was at its heights and restrictions prevented us from gathering. Our worship team has been amazing to adapt.



Online Church  
10 am on Sundays

**6,509** views



YouTube  
On Demand

**31,200** views



## Small Groups

we have **over 50 small groups** that are meeting weekly in DC, VA, MD and virtually online! Most of them discuss and apply the scripture and sermon from the Sunday before.

## Alpha

we had **35 people** participate in Alpha this year, which is a discipleship experience exploring the foundations of the Christian faith.





## Ministry Center

After opening the ministry center the week before Covid hit, we have now been able to fully utilize the ministry center in 2021 having countless gatherings for newcomers dinners, ministry teams, worship nights, and most memorably Sunday worship throughout the spring and early summer in the backyard. After more than a year of meeting virtually we were able to open for outdoor services in the tent at our newly opened Ministry Center!



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# 437

**We had 437 people  
attend our Newcomers  
Dinners, held at our  
Ministry Center.**

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## Easter on the National Mall

We had over 500 people gather with us on the National Mall for two Sunday services at David's Tent!



17  
Weddings



19

## Baby Dedications

We dedicated 19 new babies to the Lord this year!





## ReOpening at CHEC

On July 18th we were able to return to weekly services at the school after 490 days away. We were finally able to implement our new look through our partnership with Portable Church, that has given us a connection center space for fellowship before and after services, volunteer central room, youth city room, and expanded rooms for Kids' City.



## Leadership Community Retreat

over 100 of our leaders were able to gather for a retreat in August to be refreshed and renewed as we prepare to lead the congregation into the next season.

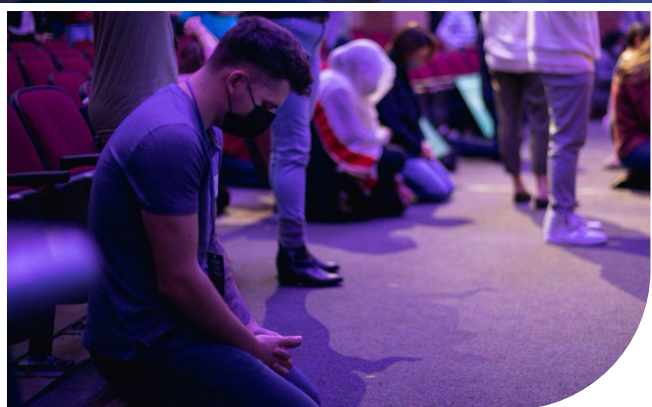






## Prayer

we started the year with 21 days of prayer with hundreds joining us online each morning. We continued with Wednesday morning corporate prayer throughout the year and are now offering prayer appointments on Sunday mornings. Many are receiving healing and breakthroughs coming out of a tough season.



We launched our **District Church Counseling Ministry** in 2019 and now have 7 counselors on our team. We are currently seeing approximately 70 clients averaging 35 sessions per week across all of our counselors.

7

counselors

70

clients

35

sessions  
per week



We started an  
**Addiction Recovery**  
ministry in 2019 and  
now have 3 active  
groups, including men's  
sex addiction groups  
that are reaching over  
35 men per week.

16

## Baptisms

16 people went public  
with their faith in Christ  
through baptism!

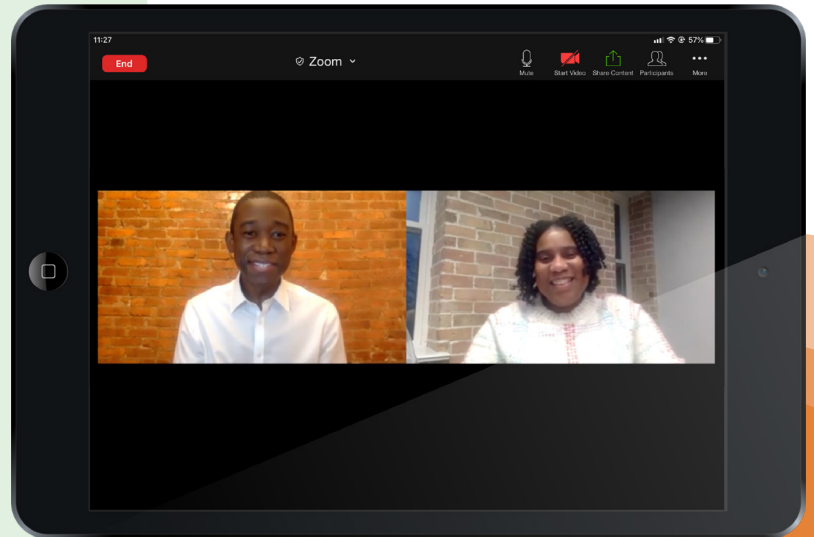




# BECOMING A MULTICULTURAL CHURCH

## Black Heritage Month Gathering

Wally Adeyemo is interviewed by Exec Board Member Camille Gooding. Wally is serving as United States Deputy Treasury Secretary. He is the first African American to serve in this role in US History. Wally is a long-time District Church member and co-founder of Just Homes.



## Asian American Pacific Islander Gathering

Mobin Jacob from the Epic Movement that is serving Asian Americans on college campuses in the DMV spoke in our outdoor event at the ministry center.





## Latino Heritage Month - Noche de Alabanza

We had a powerful night of worship at the ministry center as we sang songs in Spanish and learned about the rich culture of worship in the Latino community.

# THIS YEAR'S SERMON SERIES



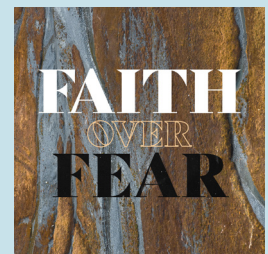
January



February



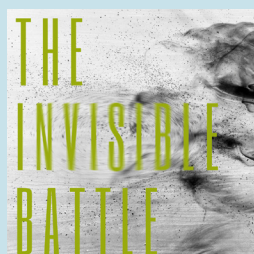
March



April



May



June



July



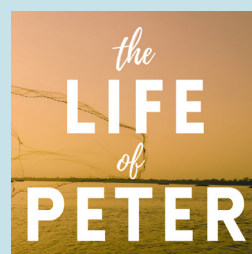
August



September



October



November



December



# COMMUNITY



# FINANCIAL REPORT

July 1, 2020 - June 30, 2021 (Fiscal Year)

Our Executive Board, staff, and Leadership Community are all engaged in an intentional and prayerful process to determine our church budget each year. Staff begin the process by working with their ministry teams to discern how God is leading them to allocate resources to advance the mission of the church in the next season. The Executive Board carefully reviews and sends a final budget to the Leadership Community to vote on by June of each year. Every dollar received and spent is accounted for through careful record keeping, tight internal controls, and the work of our outside accounting firm.

## Last Year's Income

### 2020-21 - Income

**Total Income**      **\$2,711,946**

## Last Year's Expenses

### 2020-21 - Expenses

Church Personnel    \$1,107,018

Ministry Teams      \$351,171

Facilities             \$200,741

Outreach             \$434,651

**Total Expenses**    **\$2,093,581**

## Budget Overview

### 2021-22 General Operating Budget

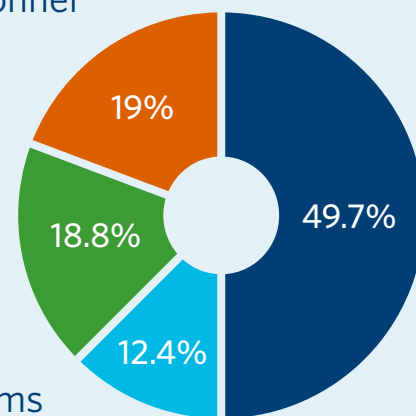
**Total Budget:**    **\$3,045,054**

Church Personnel  
**\$1,514,627**

Outreach  
**\$578,280**

Facilities  
**\$378,850**

Ministry Teams  
**\$573,297**





# OUTREACH

## Our Signature Ministries



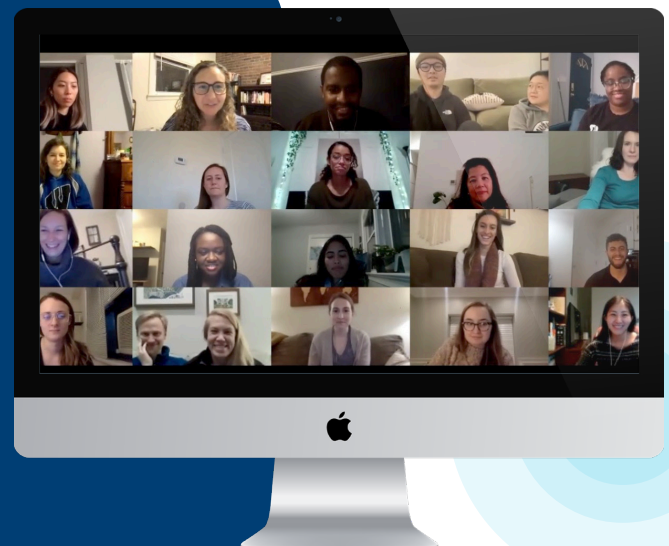
**DC127**

DC127 is mobilizing churches to support children and families in crisis. The dream is to reverse the foster care wait list in Washington, DC.



## Just Homes Spotlight

In 2021, Just Homes continued to grow in its efforts to mobilize and equip the faith community of DC to meet the housing needs of the region. We broadened our educational programming with new workshops on housing advocacy, homelessness, financial stewardship, and other housing justice topics. Through virtual programming, we have been able to reach new audiences and continue to bring more churches into the movement to make a positive difference in the affordable housing space.



## Benevolence

Thanks to the generosity of this church community, we were able to greatly expand our Benevolence Ministry during 2021. We gave over \$50,000 to community members for help with rent, utility bills, groceries, medical emergencies, and other urgent needs. These relief payments helped keep families in their homes, ensured food was always on the table, and served as a critical source of supporting during times of crisis.

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**OVER \$50,000 TO  
COMMUNITY MEMBERS**



### Local

Our local partners include: Young Lives, Samaritan Inns, Little Lights, Intervarsity, Apartment Life, Columbia Heights Educational Campus, Casa Chirilagua.

### Global

We have global partners and projects currently in Guatemala, Colombia, Canada, Greece, Moldova, Liberia, Kenya, Burundi, Jordan, India, and Cambodia.

# IMPACT STORIES

## Counseling - Tangy Wiseman



**"When I first reached out to The District Church for counseling, I was looking for guidance on how I could continue to heal from an addiction to my eating disorder."**

I think sometimes we come to counseling/therapy seeking routine maintenance, but Christian counseling allowed me to seek an actual transformation of my heart. After working with Pastor Amy to address the deeper-rooted issues that were holding me back, a lot of unfamiliar emotions surfaced and it was hard to work through them. But, each day that I walk forward towards healing, a weight is lifted from my shoulders, and I feel freer to receive God's love with a vulnerable heart.

Before I pursued Christian counseling, I had worked with one of the top eating disorder specialists in the country in college. At that time I still carried shame around my eating disorder with thoughts like 'You're lucky you even have food, why would you abuse that privilege?' 'Eating is so simple, just be

normal. Why can't you do this basic thing?' I didn't really want to go but tried it to appease my coaches and family. I believe that my heart was not open to change at that time, so even the most capable, thoughtful, and caring therapist could not heal me without my willingness.

The powerful thing about pursuing healing in Jesus through Christian counseling is prayer. I offered my mustard seed of faith that I could change and asked Him to make my heart actually desire a life that He intended for me more than my eating disorder. Praying for healing with Pastor Amy helped me start to understand that Jesus would be taking on the weight of this journey with me and I didn't need to 'heal myself' or go it alone." - Tangy Wiseman





Nate was a 40-year-old confirmed bachelor. Margo was a recent divorcee'. Both were coming back to Christ after being in the wilderness. Nate was working on himself and Margo was healing mentally, emotionally, and spiritually from a difficult previous marriage. In 2015 God brought them together in marriage.

As time progressed It did not appear that having children was in their future and as the years ticked by both decided that kids were not in the cards. Margo had a mysterious illness that caused headaches daily. (From autumn of 2015 to July of 2020, not a day went by without a migraine.)

When Covid hit and both were able to be home together they decided to start reading through "The Purpose Driven Life." Each had read it years ago separately, but God called them to seek a purpose together.

Since it did not appear that they would be having children, the two were praying to discern what was the purpose of their marriage.

9 months later, Margo at 44, and Nate at 46 years of age, Wesley Michael was born. Through the pregnancy, Margo was healed of the daily headaches. And through the years God had healed the heartaches and hardships in preparation for his divine purposes.

**God's plans and timing are His own. When a believer is willing and able to seek and accept God's divine purposes you can expect the unexpected and be in awe of how His plans are so much greater than our expectations!**



**"After taking the baptism class at The District Church, I understood the importance of taking this meaningful step as part of my commitment to follow the example of Jesus."**

"I grew up in a Catholic family, and as part of the Catholic traditions in my country of origin, I was baptized as a baby, only three months old. Since I decided to follow Christ, I was wondering if I really needed to be baptized again as an adult. After taking the baptism class at The District Church, I understood the importance of taking this meaningful step as part of my commitment to follow the example of Jesus. My heart-feeling was to make my decision public on May 8th. I also praise God because He has been very good, generous, and merciful to me since I arrived in DC. God connected me to The District Church, a church in which I really feel that my faith is getting stronger and where I have received a lot of love, and also the support of a family in Christ, being part of the Latino Small Group." - Natasha Valladares

**"God connected me to The District Church, a church in which I really feel that my faith is getting stronger and where I have received a lot of love..."**





# vision + worship NIGHT

**JANUARY 13TH | 7PM  
AT CHEC**

# 21 DAYS OF prayer + fasting

**JANUARY 10TH-30TH**

*Look for the prayer guide on our website.*

*Join us for prayer on Zoom  
every morning 7-7:30 am*







**Sundays at 9:30 AM & 11:30 AM**

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

**10 AM Online**

[www.districtchurch.online.church](http://www.districtchurch.online.church)

**Ministry Center/Church Office**

1225 Otis Street NE, Washington DC 20017

[www.districtchurch.org](http://www.districtchurch.org)

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