

the blessing



NCAMO

In this Edition

2019 Blessing Initiatives

Food Program Grants

Blessed to be a Blessing

2019 DCBC Annual Gathering

From the Desk of the Executive Director/Minister

I pray that you and your church have had a good summer. This year has been tough financially, especially given the government shut-down in the early months. I pray that your congregation is recovering well from that challenge.

Now is the time of the year to focus our prayers and attention on mission outreach to our neighbors who surround us and the communities in which they live, especially as vacations end and the new school year begins. DC Baptists, as expressions of the Church of Christ continue to express both compassion and witness through Empowering Congregations, Engaging Communities and Equipping Leaders. Every day, DC Baptists act separately as well as together to express Christ in new and vital ways. We give thanks for your prayers, for your time and talent, and for your financial gifts which reveal Christ to the people of our metropolitan area.

How can you, how can we continue to become not only symbols of hope but also channels of hope? To all those bruised and battered across this metropolitan area God desires to express compassion. You and your congregation are ways that God seeks to do so.

You find with this correspondence materials which will help you promote the offering known as “The Blessing” (and also as the NCAMO). This offering focuses on special ministry projects of DC Baptists during 2020. We ask that you use these items to bring the people of your congregation, our beloved DC Baptists to commit to local expressions of God’s mission in the metropolis we all love. This year’s emphasis includes efforts by some of our pastors who will minister to Myanmar, strengthening our immigrant friends here in the DCBC as well as their Baptist friends in that far-away place.

Through the NCAMO Offering, “The Blessing,” you can be a blessing to the people who live in and around Washington. Our goal certainly is not high, only **\$42,500**. We hope that every participating church will take the responsibility of raising at least **\$300** so we can express our work together. Some churches can support this offering with even greater amounts, and we hope they will take the challenge to do so (II Corinthians 8:1-6). Come, join with us in God’s efforts to reach out to the people of metropolitan Washington and beyond!



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FOLLOW US



District of Columbia Baptist Convention

1628 16th Street NW Washington, DC
20009

202.265.1526 (office)

www.dcbaptist.org

Office of Executive Director/Minister

Executive Director/Minister

Robert Cochran Ext 214

Office of Empowering Congregations

Minister to Empower Congregations

Starlette Thomas Ext 205

Loretta Polite-Shipman

Ministry and Missions Services Assistant
Ext 213

Office of Administration and Stewardship

Chief Operations Officer

Lashanor Doolittle Ext 203

Wilbur Willis, Ministry Assistant
Ext 204

Saul Garcia, Building Maintenance
Ext 212

Fam SaeChao Chock, Accounting and Administrative
Specialist
Ext 206

Robin Foulk, JBCC Building Coordinator
Ext 215

Office of Communications

Minister of Communications

Kimberly A. Palmore-Ferguson Ext 208

Office of Engaging Communities

Minister to Engage Communities

Andre Towner Ext 210

Loretta Polite-Shipman

Ministry and Missions Services Assistant
Ext 213

Gloria Grant, OAM Coordinator
Ext 216

September

CALENDAR

2

Labor Day

10

VA Pastors Meeting

4

MHFA Training
Part 1
ADULTS

11

Chapel and
Staff Meeting

6

MHFA Training
Part 2
YOUTH

13

OAM Team Meeting

9

Grant Class
September 9th,
16th, 23rd, 30th

14

Parliamentarian
Training

17

BOD Meeting



THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA BAPTIST CONVENTION
CORDIALLY INVITES YOU TO THE RETIREMENT CELEBRATION OF

*Rev. Dr.
Robert D. Cochran*

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR/MINISTER

SATURDAY, MARCH 28, 2020

7:00 pm

MARTINS CROSSWINDS

7400 GREENWAY CENTER DRIVE
GREENBELT, MARYLAND

AFTER FIVE ATTIRE
BLACK TIE OPTIONAL

THIS INVITATION IS EXTENDED TO ADULTS ONLY.

\$75

www.dcbaptist.org

HAPPY september

Editor's Note about this month's edition....

As we approach autumn we are so excited about the 2019 DCBC 143rd Annual Gathering next month! Please be sure to visit the DCBC website and register IMMEDIATELY!!! You just don't want to miss your blessing!

This month we introduce to you The Blessing initiatives for 2019!
Please take a look at pages 12-19 for more information.

The Office of Administration and Stewardship will be have their yearly Parliamentarian Training on September 14. Please share this information with your church staff so they can attend.
Register online as soon as your can!

Please don't forget that the 2019 Annual Church reports are due on the **15th of this month**. This form is located on the DC Baptist Convention website under Forms.

Lastly, we are excited about the Retirement Celebration for Dr. Robert D. Cochran on March 28, 2020 at Martins Crosswinds. Please prepare to attend this auspicious occasion! Registration for this event is located on the Registration page on the website or purchase your tickets at the 2019 DCBC Annual Gathering,



Blessings to you and Enjoy!

Kimberly Anne

THE GIVING STATEMENTS



WAYS to GIVE



Mail your
donations to:

**D.C. Baptist
Convention**

1628 16th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20009

Visit us
online at
dcbaptist.org

Click the
DONATE
button at the
top right
corner

Text '**DCBC**'
and the
amount you
want to give
to 73256.

1 Click
the link.

2 Send
your gift.

Our hands are open.
As your partner in
ministry and
co-laborer in the
gospel, the
D.C. Baptist
Convention
aims to connect you
to opportunities,
resources and
services that multiply
your ministry efforts.
And we are able to
do this because
month after month,
year after year,
generation after
generation, your
hands have been
open.

You have given to us
in a myriad of ways.

Please visit
[www.dcbaptist.com/
GIVE NOW](http://www.dcbaptist.com/GIVE_NOW) to view
more on
**THE GIVING
STATEMENTS!**

District of Columbia Baptist Convention



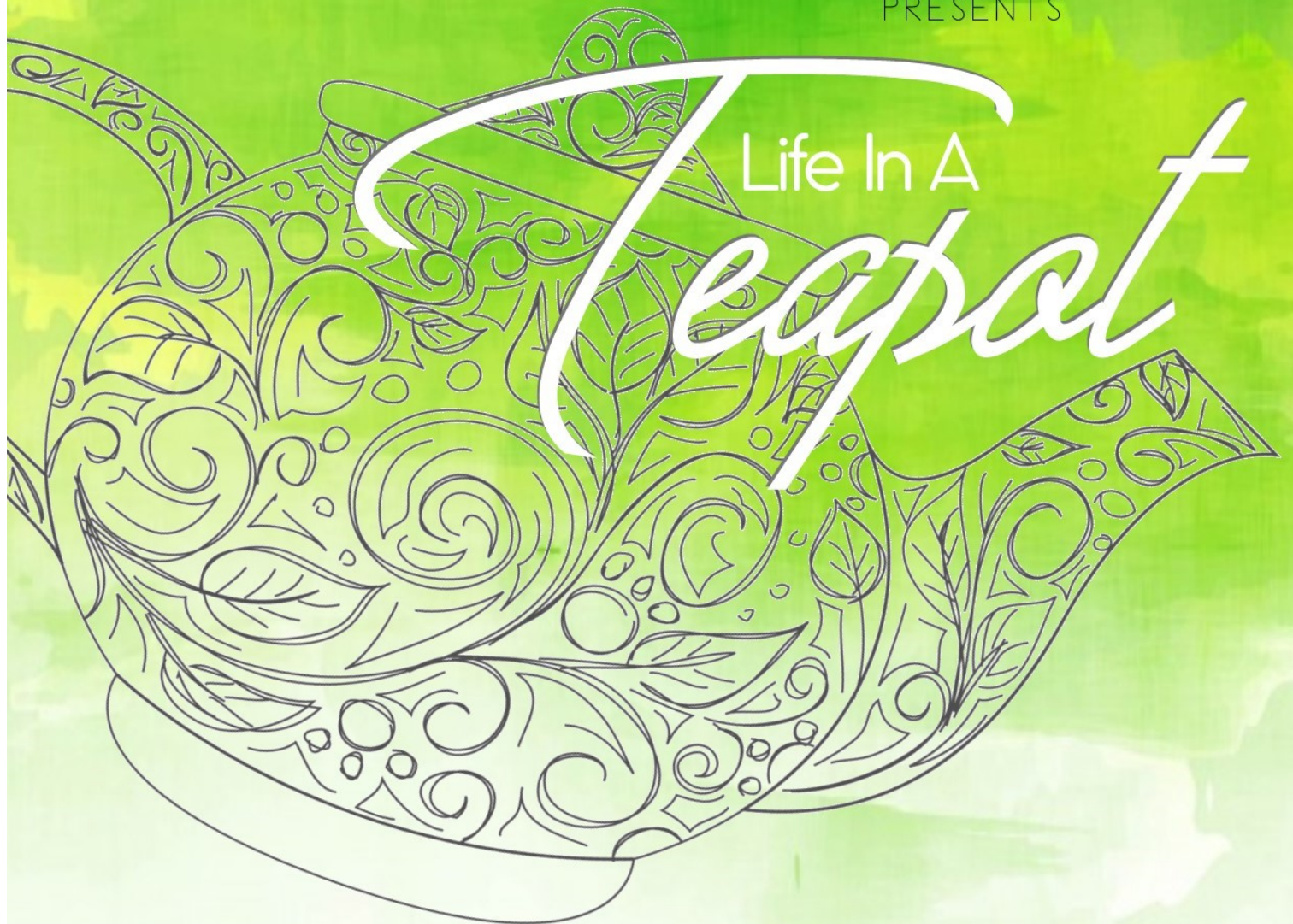
ANNUAL CHURCH REPORT



DUE
SEPTEMBER 15 **19**

www.dcbaptist.org

THE CHURCH OF RESTORATION
PRESENTS



Life In A

Teapot

SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 28 2019

ONE O'CLOCK IN THE AFTERNOON

HATS GLOVES AND SUNDAY BEST SUGGESTED

Guest Speaker



PASTOR RUTH
FRANKS

THE GATEWAY TO
WHOLENESS
CHURCH MINISTRIES

Forest Heights Municipal Building

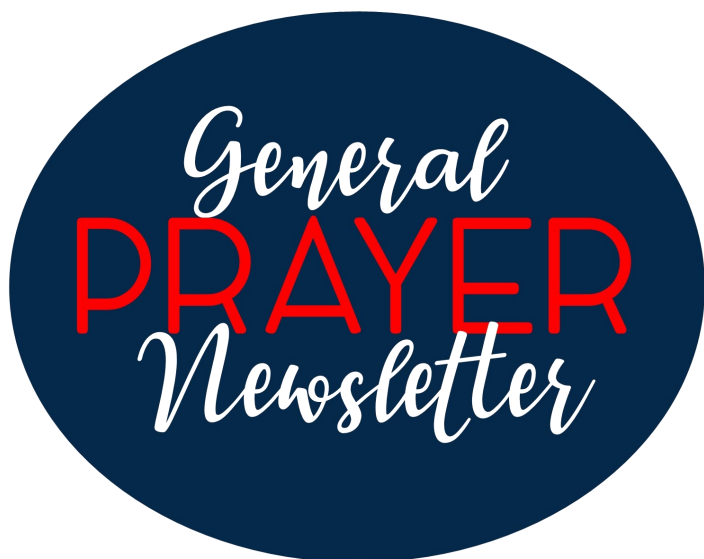
5508 ARAPAHOE DRIVE
FOREST HEIGHTS MD 20745

To reserve your seat and purchase tickets,
please contact Sister Deitra Flemming by
September 16, 2019: 202) 251-1818 or
deitraf@yahoo.com

Ticket Price: \$25

THE CHURCH OF RESTORATION

5913 ARBOR STREET
HYATTSVILLE MD 20781
PASTORS LARRY AND LEITIA VAUGHN



As we begin the days of September, many of the church leaders and the churches are beginning their efforts anew. Vacations for families and children have ended, and many pastors and church workers, too, have returned from their time away on vacation. Give thanks for these times of respite and relaxation. Pray now for these churches and for those who minister through them as they begin the efforts to share God's Good News with people who live around them.

Pray for the Board of Directors meeting which will be held on Tuesday, September 17. The Board and the staff of the DCBC are in final preparations for the Annual Gathering of the DCBC which will be held on October 24-25 at Clifton Park Baptist Church. The Board members will also be handling the questions regarding the leasing of the Johnning Baptist Community Center and the future of the Center's work. Give thanks for the service of the members of the Board of Directors this year and for its committees which have served faithfully across the period. Pray for the work of the Enlistment Committee as it completes the call of additional Board members to begin their service of the DCBC.

One of the concerns of the Board of Directors as we prepare for the Annual Meeting is the Statement of Resolve, an effort to let DCBC have a gathered voice on a major issue which confronts either our city or our society. This year we have focused on a Statement of Resolve about the nature of Truth. Seemingly, at the sources of many of our contemporary challenges is a slippery understanding of the concept of Truth. This necessarily affects the efforts of churches to share the Good News with other people. Pray for the Board of Directors and for the members of the DCBC as we consider a Statement of Resolve on the concept of Truth.

Several of our churches are rejoicing in the blessings which God has given them over the past months or is giving them in the present. One of our churches located far from the center of the DCBC is the Agape Bible Christian Fellowship in far off Martinsville, VA where Dr. Lee Hagwood serves as the pastor. This congregation has been looking for a home over many years, having started at least 17 years ago. They recently acquired a new place of worship, having received the blessing of a generous loan from a local bank in Martinsville. On the last Sunday of August, the church held a great celebration of dedication of the new church building. Rejoice with Agape in the blessing which God has given them. Pray for their future use of the building in Christian ministry within Martinsville.

Let us continue to pray for the Annual Gathering of the D.C. Baptist Convention. This last month and over the next two months individuals will be registering for the Annual Gathering. This year's Annual Gathering will be held in the Clifton Park Baptist Church on October 24--25. Pray for the meeting, for the vendors who will present their ideas and concept there and for the speakers who will address the convention members and the varied group members. Remember to lead your church to prayer for the Annual Meeting, as well.

Let us also give thanks for our national partner, the Progressive National Baptist Convention last month. Many of the pastors of the DCBC participated in the meeting last month. Also the PNBC provides annually the opportunity for laity to receive training and education for work within the local churches during the time that this national convention meets. Give thanks for the meeting of the PNBC.



Another of our national and international ties is the one with the North American Baptist Fellowship. The NABF is affiliated with the Baptist World Alliance and links together the conventions of the United States and also of Canada. Give thanks for the work of the NABF and its General Secretary, Rev. Jeremy Bell. The NABF will host its fall convocation in Falls Church, VA on October 1-2. Consider participating in this events and surely pray for the work of the NABF and for this meeting at the beginning of next month.

A partner with many of the churches of the DCBC is the Lott Carey Baptist Missionary Society which has its offices in Washington, D.C. Pray for the pastor of West Hyattsville Baptist Church whose pastor Rev. Emmitt Dunn has accepted a call to be leader of the Lott Carey Baptist Missionary Society. It will be interesting to see how the missionary society will seek to relate to the DCBC with these who have been deeply involved within our convention.

The DCBC continues to develop its ministry known as the Burma Work Group, one which focuses on the Baptist work in Myanmar. The work group is preparing for another teaching trip in early 2020, following up the one which we had this year. These trips have been catalysts to other American Baptists who are developing similar ministries within the country of Myanmar among the Baptists there. The Burma Work Group is also developing a ministry to children and youth who are in the immigrant churches within the United States. This ministry will address the spirituality of these children and the development of that spirituality. Pray for the pastors who are working on this project, which will help children and youth throughout the United States and possibly children and youth of Myanmar. Give thanks for the dedication of the members of the Burma Work Group to these tasks.

Let us begin to focus our prayers on the National Capital Area Offering, the NCAMO, also now known as "the Blessing." This is the month that we begin to seek a response to this offering. The offering focuses on new and important ministries of the DCBC. This covers all of our ministry areas including: Empowering Congregations, Engaging Communities, and Equipping Leaders as well as the areas of Administration and of Communications. Pray for the efforts to raise this offering as well as for the churches and the individuals who will give to it. Pray about your own response to the financial appeal to support these varied ministries.

It is now this month that we begin our Grant Training Class at the offices of the DCBC. Pray for those who will attend the class and for the leader, Mr. Stephen Broyles of Howard University. Give thanks for those who have taken this class and for their future ministry in writing grants. This year we know that staff of the DCBC have participated in writing grants for a total of more than \$400,000 this year. Pray for God's grace upon those who are considering these grant proposals. Pray also for Mr. Broyles and for those who will take the grant writing class. We know already that some graduates from the class are writing grants to help their churches in finding resources for ministry.

Finally, we ask for your prayers as we seek a new occupant to the Jochenning Baptist Community Center. The Early Childhood Academy which was an occupant for many years have secured their own building. Now we look for a new direction in the ministry at Jochenning and for those who will occupy the building there as we continue to minister in that community of Ward 8.



District of Columbia Baptist Convention

OFFICE OF
ADMINISTRATION AND STEWARDSHIP

PARLIAMENTARIAN Training

Saturday, September 14, 2019
10:00AM - 1:00PM

DC Baptist Convention

1628 16th Street NW Washington, DC 20009



A member of the National Association of Parliamentarians® (NAP) since 1998, Darlene T.

Allen, PRP, is a practicing professional registered parliamentarian currently serving as President of the NAP. Darlene became a registered parliamentarian in 2002 and a professional registered parliamentarian in 2003.

Darlene serves her clients by writing parliamentary opinions and scripts, giving workshop presentations, providing expertise during the nomination and election process, presiding over meetings, serving as a judge during parliamentary competitions, and advising on bylaw amendments and revisions, procedures, and minutes.

In this workshop, basic parliamentary procedure topics that will enhance the church council/board experience will be identified and demonstrated where applicable.

Topics will include the definition of a quorum, types of meetings, steps to making a motion, language used to make motions, voting, committee reports, and minutes.

Register online at
www.dcbptist.org

HURRICANE DORIAN



The District of Columbia Baptist Convention request your immediate assistance in the relief efforts of the effects of Hurricane Dorian.

GIVE TODAY!

Please make disaster response donations via our website (www.dcbaptist.org) by selecting the "Disaster Relief Efforts" from the pull down menu. These funds will be used to support response teams we send and/or given to relief agencies serving people in the hardest hit areas.

VOLUNTEER TODAY!
<https://dcbcengage.org/volunteer/>

The District of Columbia Baptist Convention
presents The Blessing 2020 Initiatives

the blessing



The Blessing is a campaign for the DCBC family to extend the reach of individual member congregations by collectively supporting ministries of compassion.

Give an offering
through your
church.



Send your contribution to



District of Columbia
Baptist Convention
1628 16th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20009



Log on to
www.dcbaptist.org



Our goal this year is to
raise **\$42,500** for
compassion ministries.
All money collected will
go directly to support the
ministries listed.

**With more than 150
member churches, we
believe we can reach
this goal together.**

the
blessing
2020



Partnership Missions

with Myanmar



D.C. Baptists are a people focusing on the mission of Christ. We have eleven churches among us made up of immigrants from Myanmar.

These friends provide open doors to work among three people groups—the Chins, the Kachins and the Karens—where we worked in 2019. These funds will continue to help Baptists (pastors, leaders and seminary students), extending their ministries though teaching in the areas of Agriculture, Practical Theology and Social Work. Some of the funds will also be used to strengthen teaching efforts in the refugee camps and Sunday Schools among the Kachin people of Northern Burma.

GOAL: \$5,000



MENTORSHIP TRAINING

For Retired Pastors

Retired pastors can serve as mentors to help younger pastors, sharing their experiences and treasured wisdom. A challenge for young pastors is to learn how to work both effectively and wisely in the first churches they serve. These have observed congregational life as lay persons but have limited experience in knowing the “nuts and bolts” of pastoral ministry. Often pastoral leadership styles used previously do not work well in this environment. Linking the newly serving with the newly retired will benefit the pastors, their churches and the DCBC.

Send your contribution to



District of Columbia
Baptist Convention
1628 16th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20009



Give an offering
through your
church.



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www.dcbaptist.org



the
blessing
2020



Office of Empowering Congregations

GOAL: \$7,500

Beloved Community Builders



Let me see a show of hands. Who is ready to build beloved community? The Office of Empowering Congregations invites churches to create community gardens, host health clinics, book bag drives, set up a neighborhood book exchange or coordinate a community clean-up day. Wherever the Church is, let us be found building community.

Send your contribution to



District of Columbia
Baptist Convention
1628 16th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20009



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through your
church.



Log on to
www.dcbaptist.org





the
blessing
2020

Office of
Equipping Leaders

GOAL: \$3,750

Pastor Renewal Retreat

Pastors live hectic lives tending to the needs of others at their own sacrifice. All pastors need the support of others, whether family members or fellow clergy, who understand well the pressures upon every pastor. We sponsor these spiritual retreats so that relationships can both begin and be strengthened to support pastors throughout their ministries in the DCBC.

Send your contribution to



District of Columbia
Baptist Convention
1628 16th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20009



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through your
church.



Log on to
www.dcbaptist.org



the
blessing
2020

Office of
Administration
and Stewardship

GOAL: \$7,500

Automotive

Repairs for Single Caregivers

We realize that having a vehicle that runs properly is important, but maintaining it is not a priority when you have limited funds and need to cover the cost for rent, food, utilities, and medical expenses. Let us put into action the words of Paul in Galatians 6:10, "Take advantage of every opportunity to be a blessing to others...". So we will provide Metro passes and/or minor automotive repairs for "single" caregivers.



Send your contribution to



District of Columbia
Baptist Convention
1628 16th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20009



Give an offering
through your
church.



Log on to
www.dcbaptist.org



the blessing
2020

GOAL: \$7,500



Office of
Engaging Communities
**PUBLIC THEOLOGY
INITIATIVE**

The Public Theology Initiative (PTI) will help equip congregational leaders (ordained and lay) increase the public good through the redemption of the public conversations, policies, and institutions that affect the communities we serve. Participants will partner with DCBC affiliated academic institutions and local practitioners to become firmly grounded in the theologies, philosophies, and practices of specific ministry models and then incorporate their newfound knowledge and skills into existing or new ministries."

Send your contribution to



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Baptist Convention
1628 16th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20009



Give an offering
through your
church.



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www.dcbaptist.org



the blessing 2020

Office of Communications



Too many times we walk past each other without a salutation of any kind. The Undivided Table will explore and ignite unique and diverse conversations through food, and culture with people to blaze a path of understanding, empowerment and community unity.

Send your contribution to

 **District of Columbia
Baptist Convention**
1628 16th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20009



Give an offering
through your
church.



Log on to
www.dcbaptist.org





District of Columbia Baptist Convention
Office of Equipping Leaders &
Office of Administration and Stewardship

MENTAL Health FIRST AID

Mental Health First Aid is a national program that teaches you how to identify, understand and respond to signs of mental illnesses and substance use disorders. The 8-hour certification course gives you the skills you need to reach out and provide initial help and support to someone who may be developing a mental health or substance use problem or experiencing a crisis.

Mental Health First Aid takes the fear and hesitation out of starting conversations about mental health and substance use problems by improving understanding and providing an action plan that teaches people to safely and responsibly identify and address a potential mental illness or substance use disorder.

The training is offered in two 4-hour sessions or one 8-hour session.

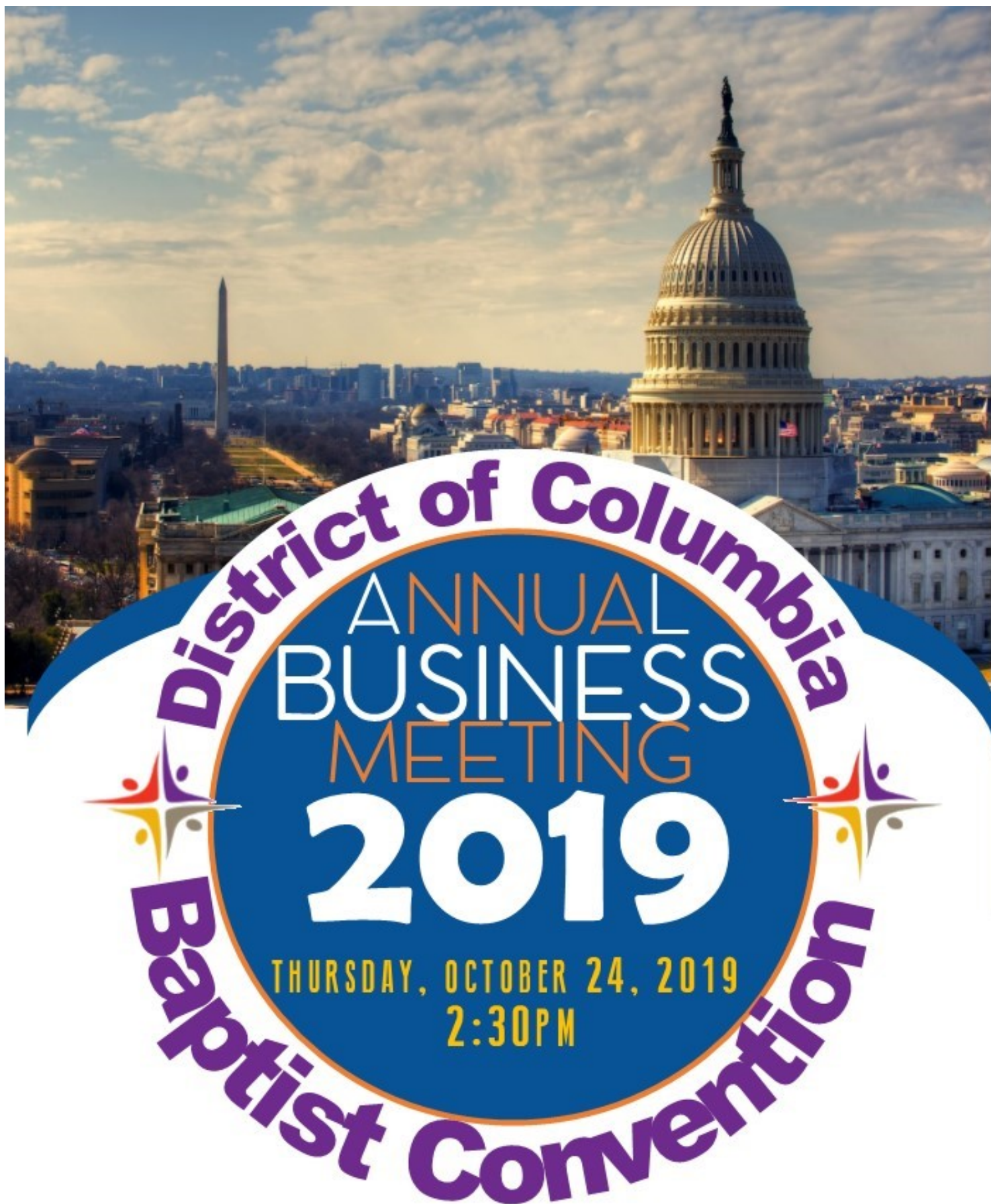
**Cost: \$60 (included MHFA
Manual and Handouts)**

**LAST
ONE for
2019!**

DCBC - Sat, Oct. 12, 8:30a - 5:30p

BAPTIST BUILDING (DCBC)
1628 16th Street NW
Washington DC

REGISTER ONLINE!
www.dcbaptist.org





By Andre Towner, Minister to Engage Communities

Earlier this year, in partnership with The American Baptist Foundation's Palmer Grant Program, we revised our Food Program Grants to hone our focus on the threefold methodologies of direct service, self-help, and structural change. To date we have awarded over \$10,000 in grants to assist DCBC member congregations and partners address food insecurity among the people they serve. A recent example of the impact this program is having comes from Mount Moriah Baptist Church who wrote:

The Deaconess Ministry of Mt. Moriah Baptist Church (MMBC), located at 1636 East Capitol Street N.E., Washington, DC 20003 oversees the MMBC Food Pantry. The MMBC Food Pantry is open on the fourth Thursday of each month, from 10:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. The MMBC Food Pantry mission is to serve individuals at risk of hunger and food insecurity. MMBC realizes there are many persons, within our surrounding area, who do not have access to supermarkets and/or grocery stores and/or the means to have enough nutritious food consisting of fresh produce, dairy products, meats and breads, along with a wide range of canned goods that would aid them with having a healthy balanced life. We realize a lack of healthy, nutritious food is linked to numerous health problems that include diabetes and undernourishment amongst

other issues which put people impacted by hunger and/or food insecurity at a disadvantage of being able to thrive in so many ways. The MMBC Food Pantry is a source of free healthy and nutritious food to individuals within our own church neighborhood and beyond.

We also offer critical resources such as nutrition education, health screenings, and seasonal food baskets (Thanksgiving and Christmas) and back to school supplies.

The \$1,500 Food Grant received from the District of Columbia Baptist Convention will be used to help support the MMBC Food Pantry operation. Many of our clients are middle age (35 -50) men and women with children. However, in the past several months, we have seen an increase in the number of men coming to the Food Pantry and also an increase in seniors 70 and older.

Hunger is a major concern among many American citizens today with unemployment, bankruptcy, and personal debt increasing nationwide. People are finding it harder and harder to make ends meet. The MMBC Food Pantry is there to assist whenever and however we can.

Our Direct Service (Outreach Project) is provided to individuals in Ward 6 and other wards in the District of Columbia. We pack food bags consisting of meats, mainly chicken and beef along with other wholesome food products, such as brown rice, brown spaghetti, macaroni, dry beans, green beans, peas, mixed vegetable, fruit and fresh produce. We try to ensure that each bag contains enough food that can be versatile and easy to prepare and store while at the same time provides protein, fiber, and vitamins for at least two-to-three meals. For the past several months, on average we have served approximately 40-50 individuals in the two and half hour span that the pantry is open. In addition, the MMBC Food Pantry is also open doing the week as the need arises or upon request.

We are in partnership with the Capital Area Food Bank (CAFB) where we do on-line and on the floor shopping on a monthly basis. This partnership also helps us to purchase food at a reasonable cost. The \$1,500 Food Grant will help us to make more selection of items when shopping and will enable us to feed a greater number of persons in need.

Again, on behalf of Pastor Lucius M. Dalton and the Deaconess Ministry, we thank you for the approval of our application for food pantry funding.

Funding for this work is still available and can be requested via our online application located at:

<https://dcbcengage.org>.

Quarterly grants are available up to the following amounts:

- **\$750 - Direct Service**
(ex: food pantries, distribution event)
- **\$1,000 - Self Help**
(ex: nutrition courses, community gardens, Bible/Sunday school curriculum on food issues)
- **\$2,500 - Structural Changes**
(ex: changing food policy on local/federal level, speaking with area representatives)







DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA BAPTIST CONVENTION

14^{3rd}
Annual Gathering of Churches

Blessed

TO BLESS OTHERS

Luke 10:23-24

OCTOBER 24-25, 2019

CLIFTON PARK BAPTIST CHURCH, SILVER SPRING, MD

SEPTEMBER 2019 CAPITAL BAPTIST NEWSLETTER 28



DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA BAPTIST CONVENTION

143rd
Annual Gathering of Churches

Blessed
TO BLESS OTHERS

Luke 10:23-24

OCTOBER 24-25, 2019
CLIFTON PARK BAPTIST CHURCH, SILVER SPRING, MD

SEPTEMBER 2019 CAPITAL BAPTIST NEWSLETTER 28



DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA BAPTIST CONVENTION

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DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA BAPTIST CONVENTION

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Luke 10:23-24

OCTOBER 24-25, 2019
CLIFTON PARK BAPTIST CHURCH, SILVER SPRING, MD

SEPTEMBER 2019 CAPITAL BAPTIST NEWSLETTER 28



OCTOBER 24-25, 2019

CLIFTON PARK BAPTIST CHURCH, SILVER SPRING, MD



OCTOBER 24-25, 2019

CLIFTON PARK BAPTIST CHURCH, SILVER SPRING, MD

www.dcbaptist.org

REGISTER
ONLINE

REGISTER

Today

\$50

Business Session
Including Dinner

\$40

Seminary Students
(Friday ONLY)

Includes Lunch *or* Dinner

\$100

Includes all meals

\$125

(AFTER October 15)

Need Assistance? CALL 202.265.1526

District of Columbia Baptist Convention
OLDER ADULT MINISTRIES
CONVOCATION AND LUNCHEON

YESTERDAY'S Challenges TODAY'S HELP FUTURE BLESSINGS

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 24, 2019 11:00am

11:00AM - 12:00PM Ministry Presentation ● 12:00PM - 1:00PM Lunch ● 1:00PM - 2:30PM Presentation

CLIFTON PARK BAPTIST CHURCH
8818 PINEY BRANCH ROAD
SILVER SPRING, MARYLAND 20903

REGISTER TODAY 202.265.1526 or www.dcbaptist.org



2019 DCBC 143rd ANNUAL GATHERING OF CHURCHES

Ministers Convocation and Luncheon

Rev. Dr. John Lee

John Leland Center for
Theological Studies



Thursday, October 24, 2019
11:00AM

Clifton Park Baptist Church

8818 Piney Branch Road
Silver Spring, MD 20903

Register Today

WWW.DCBAPTIST.ORG

2019 DCBC 143RD ANNUAL GATHERING OF CHURCHES

EMERGING *Voices*

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 24, 2019
4:30PM



WILLETT



WILLIS



DER



SCOTT



HARRIS



EXHIBITORS WANTED!

2019 DCBC 143RD ANNUAL GATHERING OF CHURCHES

www.dcbaptist.org

UNDER REGISTRATION

CLIFTON PARK BAPTIST CHURCH, SILVER SPRING, MD

Itinerary

Thursday, October 24

10:00 AM Exhibit Hall Open

11:00 AM Older Adult Ministries Convocation/Lunch

11:00 AM Ministers Convocation/Lunch

2:30 PM Business Session

4:30 PM Emerging Voices

6:00 PM Dinner

7:30 PM Worship Experience

Rev. Dr. Lisa Weah

Senior Pastor

**New Bethlehem
Baptist Church**



Itinerary

Friday, October 25

10:00 AM Exhibit Hall Open

11:00 AM DCBC Luncheon

Rev. Alison Dunn-Almaguer

**Associate Minister
Vienna Baptist Church**

1:00 PM Ministry Intensives

3:00 PM Dr. Robert D. Cochran

Retirement Celebration

3:45 PM Ministry Intensives

6:00 PM Dinner

7:30 PM Worship Experience

Bishop Oscar E. Brown

**Senior Pastor
First Mount Olive Freewill
Baptist Church**



MINISTRY INTENSIVES

Friday October 25

1:00PM to 3:00PM



Social Justice

Rev. William Lamar
Pastor, Metropolitan AME Church

We live in a world where language is being deployed to contest God's reign and to subvert truth. Words that once meant one thing are being twisted to mean something else, much to our theological and political detriment. The language and intent of social justice from a particularly Christian perspective has been hijacked and redefined as something sinister, anti-biblical, and even demonic in some circles. In our time together, we will seek to reclaim not the language of social justice, but the language of the Holy Spirit - the divine indwelling that defined and directed the ministry of Jesus and the divine indwelling that desires to empower our ministries. Jesus was not so much doing social justice as he was following the leading of the Holy Spirit. We will explore the social implications of following the Holy Spirit outside of the church and into the world.

Reaching Emerging Generations

Rev. Dr. Robert Manning
Pastor, First Baptist Church of District Heights

Did your church miss the last software update? As generational and technological shifts take place at alarming speeds, your church must be purposeful in understanding the times and effectively reaching the next generation of parishioners. In this session, discuss perspectives and proven practices to help you to communicate the timeless message of the gospel in effective ways to keep your church viable for years to come.

MINISTRY INTENSIVES

Friday October 25

1:00PM to 3:00PM



Women in Ministry

Rev. Dr. Patricia Hernandez
Assoc. General Secretary, AB Women in Ministry and Transition

Pilgrimage to the Pulpit:

Pursuing, Persevering and Perfecting the Call

Join with other women in ministry as together we share and learn about the various pathways to ministry and how to survive and thrive along the way.

Protecting the Vulnerable

Ms. Chelsea Geyer
DC127



The Bible is clear that a distinguishing factor of the people of God has always been and should always be their care for vulnerable people in their communities and their work for justice. Every church still carries that charge, but so often churches don't know where to start. This can lead to churches having so many ministries that congregants are burned out and nothing is really happening, or it can lead to churches settling for transactional opportunities that don't meet the long-term needs of those in their community. This session will give a framework for reshaping the way we approach service and help you focus on the strengths of your church and how you can use those to meet real needs in your community. We will dive into what types of engagements can be most meaningful for those you serve and your congregants. Ultimately, meeting the needs of the community was never meant to be just one activity of a church, but rather in that it demonstrates the radical and generous love of God, it is the purpose of a church.

Please note: While the speaker works for DC127, this session will not be focused on DC127 but rather will help you explore and learn more about serving all vulnerable populations.

MINISTRY INTENSIVES

Friday October 25
3:45PM to 5:45PM

Spirituality

Rev. Dr. Arthur Wright

Associate Dean, Baptist Theological Seminary at Richmond



Contemplation and Compassion: An Engaged Spirituality for the World

For many, the word “spirituality” often suggests a personal, solitary relationship with God, separated from the concerns of the world. Throughout the ages, however, Christians have attested to the deep connection between contemplating God and engaging in acts of compassion in the world. Time and time again, Christians have discovered that a deep connection to God leads to meaningful engagement in the world. And deep engagement with the world leads back to sincere prayer. They are two sides of the same coin when it comes to the spiritual life. Join us for this session as we discuss the contemplative (prayerful) and active dimensions of the spiritual life. In addition to discussion, we will read some writings from modern spiritual “giants” such as Oscar Romero, Mother Teresa, and Howard Thurman.



Christian Ethics

Rev. Dr. Cheryl Sanders

Professor, Howard University School of Divinity

Ethics for Evangelicals

This class will explore the theological perspectives and ethical implications of evangelical Christianity and its contemporary counterparts, including the prosperity gospel and liberation theology. Attention will be given to the ways in which evangelical Christians engage politics and social issues.

MINISTRY INTENSIVES

Friday October 25

3:45PM to 5:45PM

Defending the Faith

Christian Apologetics

Rev. Dr. James Love
Pastor, Connect Church



"Most of the time the idea of apologetics is misunderstood because it sounds a lot like "apologizing" and for the Christian we have nothing to apologize for ! We love Jesus and we believe in God. Actually, apologetics may be simply defined as the defense of the Christian Faith. It is offering a reason for what you believe and why you believe it. The word apologetics is derived from the Greek word "apologia" which was originally used by a lawyer in the process of defending a client. In this workshop we will discuss how to respond to critics and how to present cogent arguments for the existence of God.

Creating Communities of Hope and Recovery

Rev. Jevon Billups
Pastor, Dominion Life Christian Center

The prevalence of mental health problems in our communities, churches and families is alarming. During this session, participants will engage in conversation and activities that help identify, understand and address signs of mental illnesses and substance use disorders. Participants will explore biblical principles for building communities of hope and recovery and examine scriptures that encourage mental wellness which can help reduce risk factors of becoming unwell or experiences a crisis



blessed

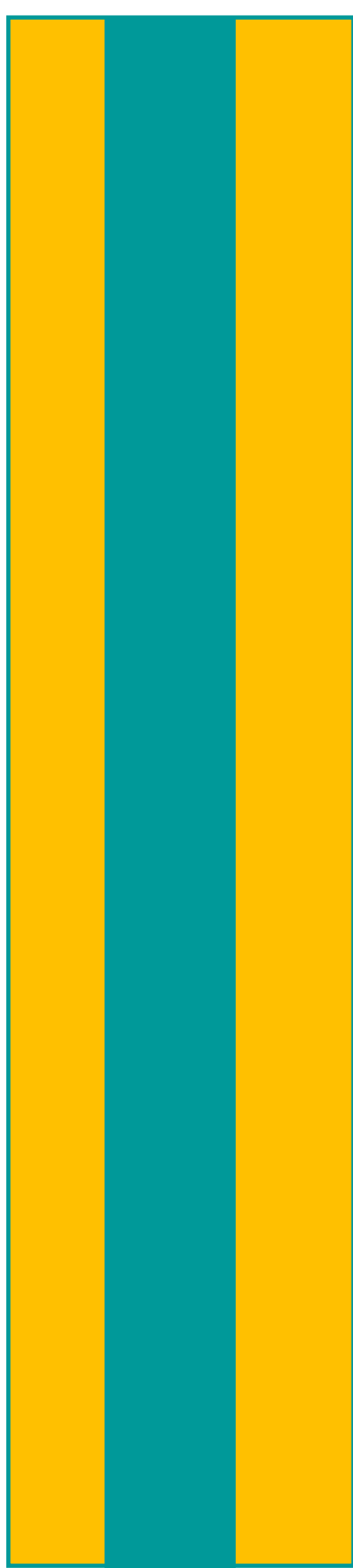
to be a blessing

By Starlette Thomas, Minister to Empower Congregations

“(Jesus) at dawn, called the twelve, and said to them, “Whoever wants to be first must be last of all, servant of all”

(Mark 9.35, NRSV, emphasis added).

It is the theme for this year's annual gathering. Inspired by the words of Jesus to his disciples, recorded in Luke 10: “Blessed are the eyes that see what you see! For I tell you that many prophets and kings desired to see what you see, but did not see it, and to hear what you hear, but did not hear it” (10.23-24, NRSV). The disciples did not cover their mouths or keep the vision of the kingdom of God's approach to themselves. Instead, they told anyone and everyone that would listen. They held nothing back. Luke records in the second part of his two-volume set that the early church “shared all things in common” (cf. Acts 2.44).



Likewise, the member churches of the D.C. Baptist Convention join hands across state lines and denominational differences for fellowship and for the sake of Christ Jesus. Called to love our neighbor, we embrace the world in this metropolitan region as persons from across the globe come here to live and work. Many cultures and languages, we are blessed to share in the richness of this diversity. And the opportunities to be a blessing, to be of service are endless.

Bishop William Willimon writes the forward to Craig C. Hill's *Servant of All: Status, Ambition, and the Way of Jesus*, "Status, honor, and the drive to get ahead would be worthy human endeavor *if it were not for Jesus*. He was the one who advised his followers not 'Go for the gold!' but rather, 'The greatest among you must become the youngest, and the leader like one who serves'" (Luke 22.26). Jesus not only said this but did this, modeling a strange, countercultural leadership style with basin and towel" (Hill, ix). Jesus gets in the way of us getting ahead of ourselves. His life tells a different story.

Less we hoard, Jesus puts his hand in and gives his life. We raise our hands and promise to follow his lead. Jesus comes to be a blessing, sharing the unconditional love of God with all who would make room in their hearts. Jesus is God's gift to the world. Likewise, we are called as his disciples to be "servants of all" because we are blessed to be a blessing.

EQUIPPING LEADERS PRAYER NEWSLETTER

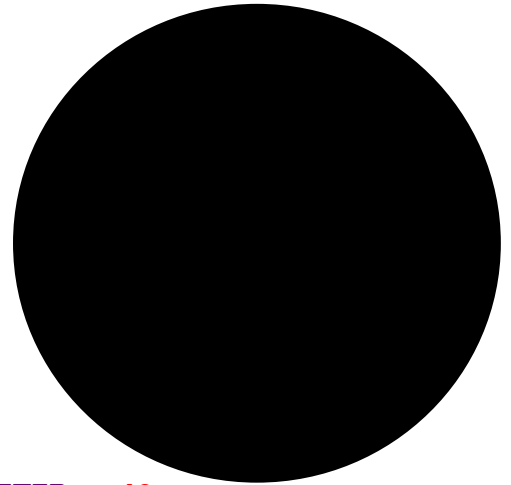
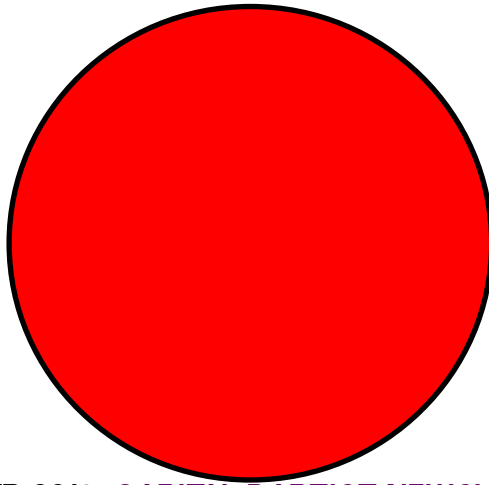
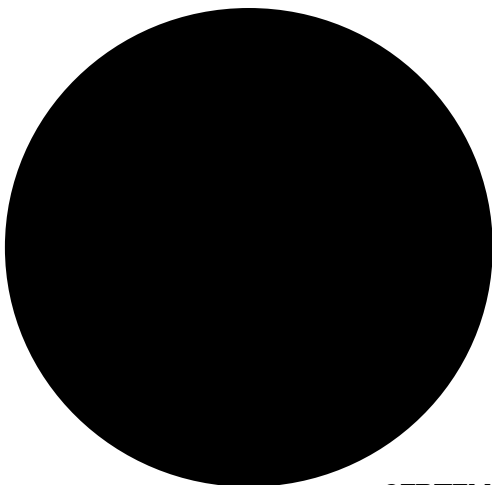
This is a season of change for many churches in the D.C. Baptist Convention, even while we look forward to the Annual Gathering in October. Pray for the following churches that currently are either without pastors or whose pastor has announced retirement. Each of these are in the process of seeking a new pastor. Pray for these efforts and also for those interim pastors and laity who are seeking to lead the church in the absence of their former pastor. These churches include: Agape Baptist Church, Comunidad de Brasil Baptist Church, Covenant Baptist-United Church of Christ, Forest Heights Baptist Church, Iglesia Bautista

Emmanuel, Israel Baptist Church, Living Faith Vietnamese Baptist Church, Luther Rice Baptist Church, Montgomery Hills Baptist Church, Mt. Carmel Baptist Church, National Baptist Memorial Church (which has a transitional pastor), Resurrection Baptist Church, Riverside Baptist Church, Spirit of Peace Baptist Church, True Gospel Baptist Church and Village Baptist Church. This is quite a list of our churches, and they are at different stages in the process of seeking new pastors. Pray for the churches and those who are assisting them as they seek new pastors.

Let us continue to pray for the leadership of our friends in the North American Baptist Fellowship at is part of the Baptist World Alliance. They are seeking to make decisions about their input into the nomination of a Vice-president from Baptists in North America to join with the other Vice-presidents from the various continents and to serve the BWA over the next five years. Give thanks for the careful thought that this group is giving to the selection and nomination of this Vice-president.

Now is the time of preparation that the staff, volunteers and many participants with the DCBC are having as we get ready for the Annual Gathering of the DCBC. This meeting will occur at Clifton Park Baptist Church once again during October 24-25. Pray for the vendors who will come to the meeting to share their ideas and products with the members of the DCBC. Pray also for those making reports to the DCBC, including the churches who submit reports of their work to the convention and to their fellow churches, as well as those involved in the ministries of the DCBC. Pray also for the speakers that will share with the participants at the convention meetings. Pray about your involvement with the Annual Gathering of the DCBC this October.

We ask your continued prayers and support for the partnership with the Myanmar Baptist Convention, and with the member conventions from Chin, Kachin and Karen states. This partnership is bringing results internationally and among American Baptists across the country. The Chin Christian College is asking for three persons to share with its students this year. Further, the Kachin Christian College and University is considering how many they might seek to have to share. Further, the DCBC is working to hold a conference during September for the refugee churches to help develop the spirituality of their children and youth, in part with Judson Press. Give thanks for all these ministries and for the development of leaders of various types in these efforts.



EQUIPPING LEADERS

PRAYER



NEWSLETTER

Give thanks for the work of the Commission for Ordination. We anticipate the full ordination of Mr. Jim Parabochi during the month of September by the Wisconsin Avenue Baptist Church. The Commission for Ordination also looks to complete the recognition through ABC-USA processes of one of our long-term pastors this month. Pray for this work and give thanks for it.

Let us give thanks for the good meeting of the Progressive National Baptist Convention this past month. Many of the pastors of the DCBC participated in this meeting, and large numbers of laity and

volunteers attended various training and seminars during the meeting. Give thanks for the efforts of the PNBC and for the meeting to which they annually invite the DCBC.

Let us pray for Dr. John Lee of the John Leland Center for Theological Studies (JLC). JLC has been a partner with the DCBC for at least 20 years now. The new President of JLC is Dr. William Smith, one a staff member of DCBC and later the pastor of Riverside Baptist Church. Pray for both the school and Dr. Smith as they minister throughout the DC metropolitan area. We are inviting Dr. John Lee to share with the pastors and ministers of the DCBC during our Annual Gathering specifically on the topic of "Mission." Pray for Dr. Lee as he prepares and also as he participates in volunteer missionary efforts in Korea.

We spoke of the passing of Rev. Jerry Buckner in our last prayer newsletter. Many D.C. Baptists met together in early August at University Baptist Church in College Park, MD. There we celebrated how God had worked through Rev. Buckner's life to assist students both across the country and at the University of MD. Remember to give thanks for his past ministry, to pray for his family and to pray for our current minister to students at Gallaudet University.

Let us continue to pray for our retired pastors. One of these who touched base with DCBC this past month is Dr. Bill Moyer, formerly of Hillandale Baptist Church. Let us give thanks for the ministry of Rev. Carlton Veazey who will publish a book this month. Pray also for Rev. Paul Clark, a former interim pastor to many churches and also a former staff member as he endures illness at this time. Continue to pray for the efforts which Rev. Gerald Martin is making to enlist retired pastors into support ministries within the DCBC.

Let us remember to pray for the new graduates from the seminaries who are now seeking ministries within the churches. There is a group young people who are seeking opportunities for ministry. This is good news in the long term for churches that are seeking new pastors, although few of these new graduates are seasoned enough to take on the churches that have pastoral needs. Still, the fact that God still is calling young people into the ministry is good news for the churches who seek leadership now or in the future. Similarly, God is calling new missionaries onto the fields of service through various mission groups such as International Ministries of ABC-USA. Pray for these missionaries, especially those locally attached (Rev. Carmella Jones of University Baptist Church and Molly and Eliberto Jamison of First Baptist Church, Silver Spring).

Consider joining the meeting of the North American Baptist Fellowship which will be meeting October 1-2 at Falls Church, VA. There is a small registration fee for this which almost all our members can bear. This meeting brings together Baptist leaders from across Canada and the United States and shares best practices with them so that they might use these in their own settings. Further, the meeting provides fellowship for members and leaders of Baptist groups living on our continent. Pray for General Secretary Jeremy Bell as he work to bring these efforts together.

Stay

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