

*DC Baptists express ministry in their churches and their communities by:*

♥ Utilizing *Baptist Women's Ministries and Baptist Men* to develop scores of *volunteers* to work both within and outside DCBC churches to minister in the name of Jesus Christ, expressing God's love to the creation.

♥ Providing space in the office building of the DCBC for ministries to hundreds of *immigrants and to the mentally ill*, helping them to find services and resources they need for their lives in the United States.

♥ Caring as Baptists in DC among *Older Adults* for decades. Since 2005, more than 22 churches helped lay a new foundation for this ministry. Today, *Gloria Grant*, a contract worker, serves as Coordinator for Older Adults Ministries.

♥ Caring for *children* whose parents choose employment, providing for the basic needs of the children. These ministries also provide job opportunities for many who have few employment skills.

♥ Through coordinating ministries in Southeast DC through the *Johanning Advisory Council* made up of members from congregations in Southeast DC and the surrounding metropolitan area.

♥ Hosting *community health clinics* where people can discover ways to improve their health, working heavily with the American Cancer Society.

♥ Helping *college students* at multiple universities and schools adjust to their new

surroundings in Washington, helping them make friends and discover spiritual growth as young adults both at *American and Gallaudet Universities*, focused through the ministries of Marinetta Cannito Hjort and LeeAnn Carrerra, respectively.

♥ Partnering with the Court Services Offender Supervision Agency to engage churches within the District in ministry to DC residents returning from *incarceration* as well as providing direct ministries to current inmates.

♥ Helping train church members in *Literacy and ESL Ministries* so that they can help the people in their communities improve their reading ability or learn to speak English, becoming more productive members of society.

♥ Partnering with several congregations to provide *summer camps* for children living in urban areas, providing shelter, nourishment and programming with these.

♥ Coordinating congregations, through consultant Gloria Grogan, from both the DCBC and outside of the area to serve in meeting the needs of *tourists* on the National Mall as they receive Christian hospitality in the form of information, water and Christian witness.

♥ Providing *food* for the hungry and *encouraging prayer* for both the hungry and the homeless.

♥ Sending teams to help with disaster relief and recovery and raising funds to help with disasters overseas.

DC Baptists provide the loving ministry of God in hundreds of ways, rich in diversity, to people scattered across the metropolitan area. *Celebrate these gifts!*

### *You and Your Church Ministering*

We must be honest. *Ministry is costly*. That is not to say that there is always great financial expense to every ministry. Sometimes the cost of a particular ministry is only a few dollars while sometimes those ministering will expend great sums.

The *greatest cost of ministry*, though, is in both *time and relationships* which ministering Christians give to those who need God's love. Time, spiritual energy and physical energy are dear treasures.

There are costs to ministry, but there are also *great rewards* in these loving acts. The rewards first come in the *smiles* and the *gratitude* of those helped. Still, greater is the reward of *identity with the ministering Christ* from whom those in ministry learn. They, both individual volunteers and churches, grow in Christ paradoxically as they give their energies away. The *health of congregations and individuals will grow* as believers participate in God's ministry, demonstrating their faith. People who do not know God as their friend can be *drawn to that friendship* through the love expressed in ministry. The costs of ministry are investments in the Gospel. Those ministering will learn more of God and of Christian service. Minister with DC Baptists and grow in Christ.

**Join together** with the Baptists of DC, **giving life away** to the needy. **Partner together with God** in the general love that meets the human needs.

**The Center for Church and Community Ministries** has several component work groups including:

- Baptist Women's Ministries
- Emergency Preparedness and Special Ministries
- Campus Ministries
- Church-based Ministries, such as Literacy
- Immigration Work Group
- Anna B. Johanning Baptist Community Center (for both service and training)
- Older Adult Ministries
- Prison and Ex-Offender Ministries
- Ministries to the Hungry

**Church and Community Ministries are acts of God's compassion toward either those already within the Christian community or those outside it.**

*The lay leaders of the immigrant churches were uneasy. They began to notice the need to help their adult members to adjust to life in the United States. At the same time, they noticed that their youth often felt alienated from both their parent's culture and the new culture in this metropolitan area.*

*Together with these churches DC Baptists approached Newcomers' Community Service Center (NCSC) to provide English as a Second Language (ESL) classes in the churches as well as Citizenship Workshops. NCSC has been a long-time partner with the DCBC sharing the Baptist building with the convention.*

*The CCCM Team also pledged to work with the CHED Team to write a multi-year study curriculum for the youth of the immigrant churches, adaptable by each immigrant congregation. The curriculum intends to help the youth to both appreciate the cultural heritage of their family while engaging appropriately with their new home, the United States of America.*

**The Center for Congregational Health, Evangelism and Discipleship**

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**LAYING  
FOUNDATIONS  
FOR CHURCH  
AND  
COMMUNITY  
MINISTRIES**