DERWOOD ALLIANCE CHURCH

Transform Empower Launch

2017 ANNUAL REPORT

CONGREGATION

Over this past year, Derwood Alliance Church has witnessed an increase in attendance along with eight baptisms, four child dedications, three new members, three births, and a passing of a member along with many losses in our extended church family. We have rejoiced when people have said, "yes" to Christ in their demonstration of baptism. We have come alongside parents as they committed their children back to the Lord. We have welcomed those who have decided to become official members and announce their commitment to this local church body. We have celebrated with the birth of beautiful new babies, and we have mourned with the Boss family as we all grieved the loss of our friend, Ray Boss. Just like years past and years to come, 2017 brought both wonderful moments and difficult moments. Through it all, our God remained true and faithful.

MINISTRIES

In 2017, our Explorers Children's Ministry team had the honor of teaching over 20 children (birth through 5th grade) about Jesus weekly. Miriam Black oversaw this ministry as Children's Ministry Director. After giving birth to their second daughter, and following her maternity leave, Miriam stepped down from this role, but we are so thankful for her leadership and recognize God's provision through her. Explorers experienced another leadership shift when Sarah Luse became the Lil' Explorers Team Leader after Jacob Munson stepped down to focus on schoolwork. As Jen Ashby leads this ministry into the New Year as the interim director, alongside Explorers Team Leader, Steve Beardsley, Tiny Explorers Team Leader, Kari Wong, and Sarah, we look forward to all that God is going to do in and through the lives of the children that gather here every Sunday. Thank you to all of our team leaders and volunteers for the love that you show to our Explorers!

VISION YOUTH

Our Vision Students, over 15 in total, and leaders kicked off the year with a series called, "Questions." Tim Allen, Youth Director asked the students to anonymously write down one question they would like to ask God. Each question was very deep and thoughtful and was reflected in the rich conversations experienced those Wednesday evenings. Throughout the year, the students also studied the structure of the Bible, memorized the books of the Bible, read both known and lesser-known Bible stories around the campfire, and dove deeper in understanding Godly relationships. In addition to Wednesday night gatherings, Vision Youth attended the annual District Youth Retreat (DYR) at Rockbridge Young Life Camp in April, and four students attended the Spiritual Growth Retreat at First Alliance Church in Silver Spring. This second retreat was created to bookend DYR and help the students that want to go deeper in their relationship with Christ. In June, three of our students graduated and moved onto their next steps in life. It's been a great year, and thank you to Tim, and Vision's Youth Leaders, Tara Houston, Kyle Ott and Linnea Allen.

SMALL GROUPS

With an emphasis on identifying and developing new small group leaders to increase our capacity for connecting people in small groups, 2017 brought forward great small group semesters. The winter semester held four groups that ranged in topics covering discerning God's voice, to understanding work as worship. In the fall, four groups met to unpack the Sunday morning message series, "One," based on Jesus' pray for unity in John 17. This discussion on biblical unity proved to be insightful and helped us move just one step closer to accomplishing our vision of becoming a multi-ethnic, multi-cultural, and multi-generational church.

CAFÉ CLASSES

A newer ministry DAC began in 2017 was Café Classes which took place during the second Sunday Gathering. Evan Homan kicked off the new ministry with a class on, "God's Economy." Ted Mueller taught the next class, "Discovering the Old Testament." "Essentials: The Core Beliefs of Christianity," was taught by Keith Luse, and Jen Ashby and Evan Homan, together, taught what it means to share the gospel with others in a class called, "Just Walk Across the Room." "Soul Keeping," was the next topic of study, led by Jen Ashby and Sarah Luse, while Dana Zetterberg led the last class of the year, "The Forgiveness of Jesus." DAC also experimented in hosting Café Class After Hours. This gathering meet Wednesday evening where Chris Henrich led the topic called, "Reaching Higher in Studying the Bible." The intent behind these classes were to create another place where individuals could connect and dive deeper into topics such as faith, family, and finances. For those that attended, we hope what was learned continues to have a profound impact on your journey towards Christ. Thank you Evan, Ted, Keith, Jen, Sarah, Dana and Chris for your willingness to guide and teach this past year!

LOCAL MISSIONS

This year, we continued our endeavor in partnering with Montgomery County Coalition for the Homeless (MCCH). Every third Sunday of the month, we packed bagged breakfasts for MCCH's Home Builders Care Assessment Center (HBCAC) Men's Emergency Shelter. We also decided to increase our involvement with MCCH by adding another monthly meal at the shelter, coordinated by Luz Ragland and prepared and personally served by DAC. On January 25th, Jen Ashby, Lucrecia Munson, and Luz Ragland assisted with the Point in Time Count where the number of individuals experiencing homelessness in the community are counted. In the summer, DAC held another Community Walk. Sixty-six individuals participated in the walk and raised $1306! In November, DAC also collected about $600 worth of household items, food, and toiletries to help provide for two of MCCH's families moving into their new homes. 2017 also consisted of the planning and brainstorming of setting up a weekend farmers market on our property through the partnership with Milk Lady Markets. After sending out a survey email to the community about this idea, we received 200+ unanimously positive responses. We continue to pray God will use this market to glorify his kingdom, and we want to thank all who organized or participated in these various venues of caring for our community!

GLOBAL MISSIONS

In this spring, from March 26 - April 2, DAC enjoyed its annual Global Encounters week. It was an action packed week with Colleen and John Schleh, Christian & Missionary Alliance workers in the Dominican Republic, and Paul, who serves in Central Asia. Thank you to our international workers visiting with us that week, to the missions team for coordinating the week, and to Laura Hessler for her leadership as Missions Director! On June 24, 15 individuals were launched on mission to El Salvador to begin our first international partnership. In the fall, after the missions team decided to move from one Global Encounters a year to two, we then had the privilege of hosting Tony Escalante and Kevin Cabrera, the Envision El Salvador staff. During this fall Global Encounters, 36 DAC households participated in one or more of the evening events, 22 people made a faith promise to pray for local and global missions, 13 people made a faith promise to *go* with time and talents, 11 people make a faith promise to tithe (10%) to the local church, and 21 people combined pledged $36,000 to missions for the next year. God was and is on the move!

CONNECTIONS TEAM

Under Wendy Geraci's direction as Connections Team Leader, the Connections Ministry grew to a group of 32 people in four teams this past year, and welcomed two new team leaders, Clint Musser leading the ushers and Casey Sutton leading the coffee team. In September, we celebrated the one-year anniversary of the re-launch of the Connections Ministry, enjoying the opportunity for all 4 teams to come together and talk about the impact we've been able to have, and how we can do things even better moving forward. Some great ideas came from the meeting, including some suggestions that led to the reorganization of the church lobby to better facilitate the social as well as functional aspects of that space. We continue to explore how we can better connect with those who are new to DAC. Thank you Wendy, Clint, Casey and the entire Connections Team for providing a welcoming environment Sunday mornings!

WORSHIP

2017 proved to be a year of transitions within DAC's worship ministry. In August, Katie Boss stepped down from her role as Worship Director. We are so grateful for her leadership over the years. We are also grateful for God's provision in Hector Ayerdiz who stepped into this role and to Melanie Neely for her leadership to the team as well. Another transition this year was with our sound system. Our sound system was outdated and had not been functioning properly for some time. Through God's provision of people's generous giving, DAC was able to purchase the new speakers and other parts of the sanctuary sound system. We pray this upgrade will provide a distraction-free environment for our Sunday Gatherings.

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS

Mark Neely, Buildings and Grounds Director, in addition to day-to-day building upkeep, organized two church work days. Thank you to Mark and all the volunteers that came out on April 8 and September 30 to help beautify the property God has given us!

OTHER EVENTS & RETREATS

This past year also provided other opportunities for our church, community, and greater Mid-Atlantic District church family to draw closer to Christ. In February, five couples attended the one-day marriage conference, "Marriage: Built to Last." In the Spring, we welcomed about 540 people from the community to our 8th Annual Spring Carnival. Over the summer, DAC wanted to find simple ways for people to connect outside of Sundays to simply have fun together. The first outing was located at Hershey Park and the second was an invite to meet up at Andrew's Airforce Show. Both events were fun-filled days for all who attended. Throughout the year, DAC also gathered together with other Alliance churches in our area via satellite for prayer. Twelve DAC women connected with our district family through the Mid-Atlantic District Women's Retreat where our very own, Jen Ashby, was key speaker. The men also enjoyed a retreat in October. Five men attended Washington Area Coalition of Men's Ministries (WACMM) Men's Conference and heard from great speakers such as Dr. Tony Evans and Dr. Paul Tripp. In the fall, we experienced our biggest event ever with over 620 people who attended the Fall Festival. We are excited for how God is using our carnival and festival to bless our community. We look forward to new and repeating events in the year to come.

LEADERSHIP

ELDERS

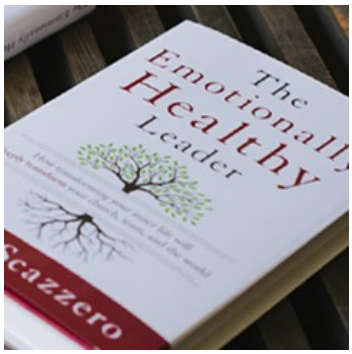
Once a month, DAC's Elders along with Pastor Mark and Jen met together for prayer. The Elders of DAC shepherd and give spiritual oversight and each time they meet, they not only pray for us but discuss how to better provide care for the congregation. Thank you to all the Elders for your care and leadership.

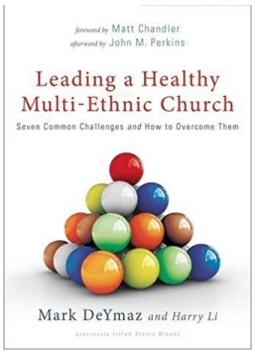
BOARD OF GOVERNANCE

DAC's Board of Governance (BOG) set boundaries for Pastor Mark and along with Pastor Mark, meet four times throughout the year. In a span of a year, the BOG discusses everything from brainstorming how to be more intentionally missional in our surrounding community to approving the church's budget and other substantial purchases. They have actively been involved in the decision making of updating our sound system and moving forward with our farmers market partnership. Thank you to BOG members for your leadership and guidance.

STAFF

This year, the staff implemented goals based off of their readings from, "Four Disciplines of Execution," a book they picked up from Willow Creek's Global Leadership Summit. It was a challenge and stretch at times but a great way for the staff to practice trusting in God. In February, the staff went on their second annual staff retreat to southern Maryland. It was a great time to be together, be refreshed, and reflect on where they have come from, how they are doing, and where they are headed in their roles. In the spring, Mark Trinkl, Nami Trinkl, Jen Ashby, and Laura Hessler attended General Council of the Christian and Missionary Alliance. It was a great time to be reminded of the greater Alliance family and what God is doing around the world. In August, Katie Boss stepped down as Worship Director. It came as a bittersweet announcement but we continue to trust God in his provision for Katie, and we have also delighted in welcoming Hector Ayerdiz and his family to DAC. He, along with Melanie Neely, have been doing a wonderful job in leading us in worship each Sunday morning.





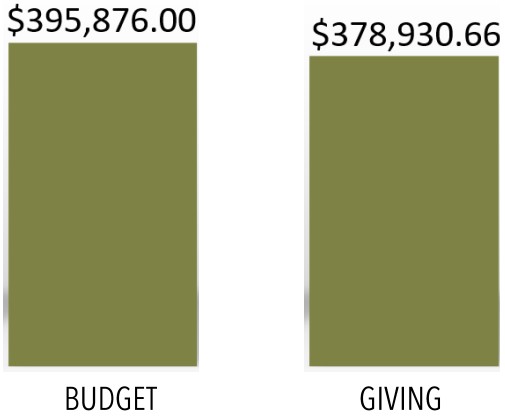
LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

Over this past year, the staff, elders and BOG met together monthly to grow spiritually and to encourage one another. Each gathering started out by each member answering the questions, "what is God telling you and what are you doing about it?" These questions helped each individual gauge their own spiritual wellbeing along with the overall spiritual wellbeing of the group. The monthly gatherings were also a time to discuss various books. The first book read together was Peter Scazzero's book, "Emotionally Healthy Leader," together. This resource helped the group to better examine their own lives and the areas that would benefit from the intentional pursuit of health. The second book read, "Leading a Healthy Multi-Ethnic Church," by Mark DeYmaz proved to be insightful in DAC's own journey to becoming a multi-ethnic, multi-generational church.

STATS & FINANCIAL

YEAR	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
MEMBERS TOTAL	107	110	100	100	90	72	61	58	63	67	54	56	64
MORNING ATTENDANCE	180	189	174	161	147	149	115	92	93	87	98	109	125
CONVERSION CHILD	1	6	4	0	0	1	0	1	2	0	0	0	0
CONVERSION YOUTH	3	3	0	0	0	2	1	1	0	0	0	1	1
CONVERSION ADULT	4	6	2	3	1	1	1	0	1	1	0	0	0
CONVERSION TOTAL	8	15	6	3	1	4	2	2	3	1	0	1	1
BAPTISMS	6	8	8	0	0	8	4	2	2	3	2	4	8

2017 GENERAL FUND



MISSIONS GIVING: $48378.69

RESERVED FUNDS: about $300,000