



**CONGREGATIONAL  
FORUM and  
MEETING**

**2023 AGENDA and  
REPORTS**

# CONGREGATIONAL FORUM AND MEETING AGENDA

*Sunday, November 12 and November 19, 2023*

**Zoom and in Person**

**Join Zoom Meeting**

**<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86819211447>**

**Meeting ID: 868 1921 1447**

**One tap mobile**

**+13126266799,,86819211447# US**

**Opening Prayer**

**Establish Quorum and Call to Order (Meeting)**

**Board of Directors Highlights Video**

**Board Elections**

**Tina Fulp**

**Darryl Walker**

**Written Reports**

- **MCCDC Mission/Aspiration/Values**
- **Receive Minutes of March 2023 Congregational Meeting**
- **Pastoral Report**
- **Lay Delegates (no report received)**
- **Trustees (no report received)**
- **2023 Financial Statement (unaudited)**

**Special Motion**

**Board of Directors MOVES for the congregation of MCCDC to approve \$100,000 from the Far Reaching Faith Fund to cover capital repairs."**

**Motion to Adjourn (Meeting)**

**Closing Prayer**

## Our Core Values

**SPIRITUAL INSPIRATION:** We offer worship, education, prayer, and spiritual formation opportunities, helping people experience Christ in Body, Mind, and Soul.

**CONNECTION:** We embrace the gifts of inclusion bringing diverse people together for discovery, friendship, fun, and support.

**ENGAGEMENT:** We put faith into action, serving for, and with, our Neighborhood and Community.

**INNOVATION:** We strive to be open to new ideas, learning together, and thinking in terms of the future.

## Our Mission

**We are creating a powerful inclusive spiritual community, working with God to make a positive difference.**

Metropolitan Community Church of Washington, DC is a diverse community of faith. We are open, affirming, and inclusive. Our faith is rooted in the teachings and spiritual practices of Christianity. We also respect the rich wisdom of other faith traditions.

We affirm each individual as God's unique and gifted creation. With a history of celebrating diversity in gender, sexual orientation, and gender identity, we welcome all people.

We are called to:

- Learn, preach, and teach about God's unconditional love for all of creation.
- Create a welcoming and safe space to experience belonging in community.
- Be fully engaged in our own spiritual growth and giftedness.
- Support the growth of others on their spiritual journey to hope, healing, and wholeness.
- Actively promote equality and justice for all people.
- Follow the call of Jesus to "Come, taste, and see," inviting all to the open table of Jesus' beloved community.

## **Our Aspirations**

**Our vision is to be known as the leading creative and inclusive community of faith in the DC Metro Region.**

### **CONNECTING AND ENGAGING**

We will be known for the songs we sing and the joy we share. Our transformational stories and vibrant art will open new windows into the loving heart of our Creator. The love of Christ will shine through our lives reflecting a generous welcome with affirming acceptance. Our movement is becoming a faith community of many ages, cultures, and walks of life.

### **GROWING FROM THE INSIDE OUT**

As we live into this vision, we will inspire people to discover and develop their talents. We will encourage the growth of their creative potential. We will equip them for Spirit-led ways of service to make a positive difference in the lives of others.

### **BECOMING A SPIRITUAL FORCE**

Empowered by the Holy Spirit we share ourselves and our gifts to become a growing spiritual force for compassion, justice, and equality. In a spirit of collaboration, we partner with other communities and organizations.

**As we fulfill this vision, we will have over 1,000 participants engaged in our weekly activities, online programming, and/or worship services.**

# CONGREGATIONAL MEETING MINUTES

*Sunday, March 26, 2023*

Quorum achieved at 12:37 pm

Pastor Dwayne Johnson moderating.

There is a motion from the Board of Directors to approve the 2023 church budget/ministry action plan.

2<sup>nd</sup> to the motion from Kappy Majekodunmi.

Discussion: five congregants spoke in favor of the budget, none against.

Motion passed unanimously.

Motion to adjourn by Cecilia Hayden-Smith

2<sup>nd</sup> to the motion from Chocolatté

Meeting adjourned at 12:52 pm

Cecilia Hayden-Smith provided the closing prayer



# Pastors Report November 2023

## MCCDC: Creating Our Generous Future

**“The Lord says, ‘Forget the former things; do not dwell on the past. See, I am doing a new thing!’”**

~Isaiah 43: 18-19

The context continues to change. The needs of our world and community continue to expand. Who we were a year ago is not who we are today. And who we will be a year from now will be determined by our ability to discern, communicate, prepare, act and reflect on challenges and accomplishments.

As we prepare to enter 2024, our faith holds true. We believe that God is preparing us to do new things, including doing our best to offer community-building opportunities in-person and online. Church will never be what it was in 2019. That’s not only true for us, but for all churches. For some, that is a scary reality and some churches have chosen to close. We are choosing to open ourselves to new possibilities.

*“We are called to reimagine what it means to reimagine church.”*

In early 2024 we will offer “Reimagining Gatherings” to converse together and consider ways to grow our membership and our faith through our worship, our connections, our ministries, our ongoing programming and our special event programming. Those dates will be announced soon.



Reimagine with us the new possibilities for a changing neighborhood and world.

**SPIRITUAL INSPIRATION: We offer worship, education, prayer, and spiritual formation opportunities, helping people experience Christ in Body, Mind, and Soul.**



~We are offering an online Thanksgiving Eve Service at 6:30pm.

~Our Advent and Christmas theme to close 2023 is “Christmas Hope in a Chaotic World.”

~Our Christmas Concert will feature our full Worship Arts Ministry.

~On October 7, Eclectic Praise offered their historic first full concert; with support from Moving Spirit and the Drama Ministry along with support from friends and families. they raised the roof.

~The 2024 Black History Month program will be February 24 at 5p.m.

~ Min. Daniel and Min. Diedre continue to offer worship leadership at

9a.m. and 11a.m. worship services.

~The Drama Ministry creatively and joyfully communicates The Gospel in captivating ways. It also offers meaningful connection among its participants.

~Rev. Dr. Robin Hawley Gorsline is back from sabbatical, ministering as Queer Poetic Eco-Theologian.

**CONNECTION: We embrace the gifts of inclusion bringing diverse people together for discovery, friendship, fun, and support.**

~The Older Adult Ministry is having their first food gathering since early 2020 on December 10 at 12:30p.m. This gathering is co-sponsored by our Pastoral Care Ministers. ...and all are invited.

~The Pastoral Care Ministers continue to offer support. The ministry is facilitated by Rev. Dr. Teresa Tygart. Lamar Berryhill-Jenkins and Todd Clark minister on the team.

~The Writer's Ministry meets monthly, with leadership from Jackie Lois Laughlin, Greg Snyder, and others who facilitate by appointment.

~The Tuesday Night Bible Study remains strong; meeting via Zoom on Tuesdays at 7p.m. Dale Madyun-Baskerville is the team lead, with strong support by various

~Noon Prayer meets on Zoom Monday through Saturday. As of November 7, 2023 we have joined for prayer 1124 times.

~ An emergent ministry in 2023 is the Wellness Team, with leadership from Dr. Carla Sherrell and support from Rev. Cathy Alexander, Donald Burch



**ENGAGEMENT: We put faith into action, serving for, and with, our Neighborhood and Community.**



~MCCDC impacts our neighbors and area families as the host site for the Early Learners Academy that serves 40-60 children Monday through Friday.

~Wallace Corbett is organizing a Holiday Toy Party for the children of the Early Learners Academy. The party will be on December 8. Volunteers and contributions are welcome.

~MCCDC serves as the host site for the office of Mary's House for Older Adults and many programming activities.

~MCCDC serves as the host site for Unity Fellowship

Church of the District of Columbia that meets at 2p.m. on the first and third Sundays of the month.

~MCCDC serves as the host site for We Are Family, a food and support program for older adults.

~Rev. Cathy Alexander continues denominational impact in a full-time role with the denomination as Vocational Leadership Coordinator. She is responsible for leading the global development of clergy and laity in fulfilling their calls. We are grateful that she is continuing to serve part-time as our Associate Pastor, with a focus on operations, financial oversight and worship.

~Rev Cathy represented MCCDC in the DC Capitol Pride Interfaith Service as well as through her participation at the National Cathedral's annual commemoration and remembrance of Matthew Shepard.

~MCCDC again participated in September's Komen More than Pink effort, raising over \$1,000.

~Mental Health Awareness Month was May 2023 in partnership with Volunteers of America with facilitation by Rev. Jules Christian.

~Team MCCDC again supports the Walk to End HIV on December 2, 2023. Dale Madyun-Baskerville is ministering as the Team Lead.

~The 2023 Transgender Day of Remembrance program is held at MCC DC on Monday November 20 at 5:00p.m.

~ Rev. Dwayne was reappointed to a fifth term on the Mayor's Interfaith Council (MIC).

**INNOVATION: We strive to be open to new ideas, learning together, and thinking in terms of the future.**

~ In early summer we completed our Sanctuary Audio Visual Upgrade with advanced technology. Large video screens and confidence monitors are the foundation. Future capacity will include interaction between the in-person and online communities. This project was funded by a grant from the Building Helping Transforming Foundation.

~The Communications Team of Johanna Hardy, Sheila Chittams Dale Madyun-Baskerville stepped up to meet increased needs. They worked with a constant eye towards improving our website and eblasts.

~Jason Jedlinks designs banners and graphics that align with our themes.

~Thanks to our Tech Team of Sheila Chittams, Johanna Hardy, Dale Madyun-Baskerville, Knut Panknin Thanks to Michael Cunningham, Michelle Howard, j.scales, and Rev. Dr. Teresa Tygart for sound tech leadership. The Tech Team meets every Friday at 6p.m. to support tech coordination, address issues, and weave together the various live and video elements. Larry Harris, now retired and living in Pennsylvania, attends virtually and offers consistent feedback to help us to improve.

~ The Generosity Team works to support to create a long term culture of generosity and to support the Board of Directors in financial resourcing. Thanks to Rev. Cathy Alexander for facilitation and to Clara Carter, Rev. Dwayne, Phil Helbling, Knut Panknin, Dr. Carla Sherrell and Darryl Walker.

~Dr. Teresa Tygart completed her Clinical Pastoral Education with Chicago Theological Seminary. Rev. Dwayne served as her supervisor.

### **OPERATIONS AND ADMINISTRATION**

~Melvin Moore Adams continues leadership as our Church Administrator. He stewards the calendar, space use, our vendor relationships and daily communication with the Early Learners Academy.

~ Our weekday volunteers include Cecilia Hayden Smith and Dale Madyun-Baskerville. Donald Burch III supports special projects.

~We refinanced our mortgage in August 2020

~Thanks to Rev. Cathy Alexander who supports our administration and operations, coordinating with our bookkeeper and accountant, Mr. Melvin Moore Adams, and Terri Neal and Chocolatté Miller, our Treasurer and Vice-Treasurer.

~Thanks to our Board of Directors, meeting monthly to support administration, risk management, and resourcing of policy and personnel.

The above notes are just the highlights. We celebrate our successes and learn from our challenges. We are grateful for all who have offered their time, talents and treasures in ways seen and behind the scenes. We are a gifted congregation and we share our gifts with generosity.





**2023 Financial Position**

Treasurer’s Report From the Oct Board meeting:

Truist General Fund Balance \$26,624.96

Truist Buchanan Fund Balance \$759.91

Eagle Bank (Lease Property) \$24,980.00

Far Reaching Faith Fund \$457,034.88

Money Market Fund \$3,755.44

\$175K approved by the congregation in June 2021, the last was transferred out this year

MCCDC Mortgage \$807,469.85

Awaiting \$20,500 reimbursement from Homeland Security

<b>Metropolitan Community Church of Washington DC</b>	
<b>Statement of Activity</b>	
<b>January - September, 2023</b>	
	<b>Total</b>
<b>Revenue</b>	
<b>4000 Gifts</b>	
4001 Offerings	59,006.59
4002 Easy Tithe	163,909.00
4005 Bequests	24,000.00
	\$
<b>Total 4000 Gifts</b>	<b>246,915.59</b>
4010 Fund Raising	500.00
<b>4020 Sales and Fees</b>	
4014 Rent - 472	62,111.45
4023 Rental/Building Usage	26,730.00
	\$
<b>Total 4020 Sales and Fees</b>	<b>88,841.45</b>
	\$
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>336,257.04</b>
<b>Expenditures</b>	
	\$
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>383,880.71</b>
<b>Net Operating Revenue</b>	<b>(\$47,623.67)</b>
<b>Other Revenue</b>	
6003 Int/Div Income	0.09
7400 Investment Income	28,758.67
	\$
<b>Total Other Revenue</b>	<b>28,758.76</b>
	\$
<b>Net Other Revenue</b>	<b>28,758.76</b>
<b>Net Revenue</b>	<b>(\$18,864.91)</b>

Upcoming Repairs and Maintenance

<b>Firm</b>	<b>Item</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Payment Notes</b>
Harris	474 Preventative Maintenance Oct '23-Oct24	\$7,944	\$622/mo
	472 Preventative Maintenance	\$1,897	\$158.08/mo
BFPE	Churchwide Fire Control Refit	\$49,750+ \$5,000 est. for additional items	\$15,533.33 down payment \$15,533.33 at delivery of equipment 15,333.33 at completion Any additions from permits or other DC offices
Vista Bureau Elevator Inspection	Periodic Elevator Inspection Annual Elevator Pressure Test	\$122.00 \$221.00 (2022 payment)	
Mr. Edwards maintenance/fix list	Replace Ceiling tiles (24pc) Elevator floor Paint doors (16) Repair door lock Repair drywall in skylight area	\$4,081	
	Electrical Timer for External lights	\$5,000 estimate	Will save money on the electric bill to put the lights back on a timer
	Replace lights in the sanctuary	\$5,000 estimate	
		Approx \$79,015	

**Tina Fulp**  
**Letter of Interest**  
**MCCDC Board of Directors**

My fellow members of MCCDC, I hereby submit my interest in serving on our Board of Directors. I have been a member of MCC-DC going on 10 years. During that time, I have served as a scripture reader and on Drama ministry and SHARE ministry. I have participated in Bible study and Bible in 90 days, and Middle/Older Adults ministries.

For 20 years, I worked as an instructor with medical and other health sciences students at area university medical schools, including Uniformed Services University of Health Sciences, Howard University, GW University, Georgetown University and University of Maryland. During the pandemic, I also worked to transport COVID and other patients to and from their imaging appointments within Holy Cross Germantown Hospital. I currently work with the Department of Homeland Security, Navy and United States Coast Guard at USCG Headquarters.

**EDUCATION**

**Duke University**

BA Public Policy Studies  
BA Drama Studies  
Minor Women's Studies

**University of Maryland**

Post-baccalaureate Pre-med Program

**ACHIEVEMENTS & AFFILIATIONS**

Holy Cross Germantown Hospital *Star of the Quarter* Award

Three-time recipient

Duke Alumni Association

Interview prospective Duke undergraduate students

Professional Theater

Have performed in many professional theater productions in DMV

Duke University D.L. Maynard Scholarship

Four- year recipient

Duke Drama Majors student Union

President Senior Year

Member 4 years

With Deep Affection and Respect,  
Tina Fulp

**Darryl Walker**  
**Letter of Interest**  
**MCCDC Board of Directors**

Greetings to my sibling members of MCCDC in the name of God our Creator, Jesus Christ our Sustainer and the Holy Spirit our Sustainer. I hereby submit my interest in serving on the Board of Directors and my involvement with MCC over the past 46 years.

In October 1977, I was at the old Lost and Found dance bar in Southwest Washington. There a man introduced himself and invited me to MCCDC. He said that he was the church organist. I thanked him for the invitation and said that I would be moving to Atlanta in a few days. Without skipping a beat, he said, "There is an MCC in Atlanta. Look it up when you get there."

A few weeks after moving to Atlanta, I remembered the invitation and decided to attend an MCC service. I was welcomed at the church door by one of the deacons who was serving as a greeter. He asked about my religious background. I told him that I had been a member of the Congregational Church and had been active in the choir. He excused himself and went into the sanctuary. A few minutes later, he returned with another man who said to me: "I heard you have sung in a choir. Are you a tenor or bass?" I told him I was a baritone. "Do you sight read music?" I told him yes. So he said they could use another baritone and to come join the rehearsal. He led me to the steps of the choir loft and suddenly turned and whispered: "What is your name?" He introduced me to the choir and gave me a copy of the score for the anthem and a hymnal.

At that time, MCC Atlanta had a formal worship service that included a choral processional, full communion liturgy and a recessional. This was my first time in an MCC and I found myself seated in the choir loft gazing out at the congregation of a couple hundred people. Early in the service, the pastor asked the congregation to pass a sign of peace. The guy sitting next to me said "the peace of God be with you" and then kissed me on the cheek. I immediately looked out into the congregation for fear someone had seen the kiss. By communion time, I was feeling more relaxed, but I was surprised that same gender couples were coming up for communion with their arms around each other's waists.

I attended Sunday service at MCC Atlanta for a few weeks. By singing in the choir I made friends with other choir members quickly. Then I attended a membership class. The next Sunday I was brought into membership. Thus began my official affiliation with MCC.

Below are the positions I have held with MCC.

- . MCC Atlanta, GA: Part-time Administrative Assistant, Lay Delegate and Choir Member
- . All Saints MCC, Atlanta, GA: Moderator, Vice Moderator, Lay Delegate. Choir Member and Delegate to Atlanta LGBT Council
- . Christ Covenant MCC, Decatur, GA: Vice Moderator, Lay Delegate and Choir Member
- . Gulf Lower Atlantic District Committee: Secretary, Inclusive Language Team Member, Department of People of Color Member and Presenter
- . MCCDC: Church Administrator, Board of Trustees Member, Men's Group Coordinator, Worship Folder Designer and Formatter

Education: Mathematics major at Howard University and graduate of the Defense Language Institute in Spanish

Employment History:

- . Assistant to the Manager, National Theatre, Washington, DC
- . Communications Data Entry, American Red Cross, Washington, DC
- . Policy Service Representative, Equitable Life Insurance Company, Washington, DC
- . Supervisor, National Data Corporation, Atlanta, GA
- . Administrator, Mental Health Association of Atlanta, GA
- . Computer Inventory Manager and Software Trainer, Georgia Department of Labor

Respectfully submitted,  
Darryl Walker