



Our Motto: One Faith. Many Cultures. Endless Possibilities.

- **One Faith** as reflected in Ephesians 4:5, “One God, one faith, one baptism,” points to a spirit of unity and sharing a common goal and understanding despite different cultures and backgrounds. We serve the same God.
- **Many Cultures** represents the diversity that exists within DCBC congregations and member churches.
- **Endless Possibilities** signifies the products and services DCBC can offer our member congregations, the potential found within church-to-church cooperation, and the possibilities available to any church that understands and pursues its purpose.

Our History: The District of Columbia Baptist Convention (DCBC), originally formed in 1877 as the Columbia Association of Baptist Churches, is comprised of 161 congregations and organizations primarily located in Washington, D.C., Maryland and northern Virginia. Over more than 142 years, D.C. Baptists have participated with the Northern Baptist movement and the Southern Baptist movement by contributing to these efforts and by receiving resources from both of them. In 1907, thirty years after being organized, DCBC took part in forming the precursor to the American Baptist Churches USA (ABCUSA), and it currently serves as one of thirty-three regional ministries. Then, in 1937, due to DCBC’s broader vision to cooperate with surrounding Baptist bodies, it changed its structure from an association to that of a convention. After this time, DCBC became known as a “City Region” of the ABCUSA and as a “State Convention” of the Southern Baptist Convention (SBC). By 1998, DCBC also became a member of the Progressive National Baptist Convention (PNBC) and consequently established its third affiliation with a national Baptist body. Later, in 2018, for the second time, SBC chose to disaffiliate from DCBC, with the first time being in 1860, due to issues related to the diversity among DCBC’s membership. Apart from these historical affiliations, DCBC maintains foundational and long-lasting partnerships with other Baptist bodies, including the Baptist World Alliance, the Baptist Joint Committee on Religious Liberty, and the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship.

Who We Are: DCBC is a collaborative of Baptist congregations and like-minded organizations which are on mission for Christ in the world. Our churches vary in sizes, ethnicities, worship styles, and ministry activities, but each one is committed to building God’s Kingdom in our communities, nation and world. Our churches participate in advancing the emerging work of God, which includes a commitment to stewardship, worship, evangelism, disciple-making, leader-nurturing, and related ministries.

One of the historical and key differences of DCBC is its multi-denominational status. This reflects DCBC's diversity as well as affirms the importance of DCBC being a socially diverse Baptist body within the context of the Washington D.C. metropolitan region.

Additionally, DCBC is committed to celebrating historical Baptist freedoms and identity while engaging in an international missional network. This involves fostering a broad base of missional relationships which share common values, embrace diversity, respect different expressions of Christ's body, and engage in collaborative efforts. Ultimately every member of this network wants to positively impact the lives of people locally, nationally, and globally.

Our Mission: DCBC seeks to inspire courageous missional engagement by a network of congregations, organizations and individuals committed to our values and the fulfillment of the Great Commission in the spirit of the Great Commandment.

Our Vision: DCBC's vision is to lead in fellowship and collaboration among its network of congregations, to have a bold Christ-centered and spiritually transformational impact on the Washington, D.C. metropolitan area, the nation and the world through the utilization of strategic priorities and initiatives.

Our Values: DCBC's values uphold the primacy of relationships to the Triune God and one another as congregations, organizations and individuals sharing the Good News of Jesus Christ through:

- Acts of evangelism and social justice;
- Involvement in cooperative missions and collaborative initiatives;
- Believer's baptism;
- Priesthood of all believers;
- Autonomy of the local church; and
- Separation of church and state.

Our Approach: DCBC fulfills its mission, vision and values by providing denominational identity among Baptist congregations who

- Identify with the Baptist body and celebrate the historical Baptist freedoms;
- Share common values;
- Embrace diversity;
- Respect the uniqueness of the different parts of the Kingdom body; and
- Engage the Great Commission.

In addition, DCBC serves its member congregations, international missional network and the greater community by:

- Supporting congregations and organizations with ministry resources and opportunities for networking, fellowship, worship and training,
- Providing missional pathways for both Baptist and non-Baptist congregations, organizations and individuals that want to positively impact the lives of people locally, nationally and globally.
- Advocating for programs and activities which inspire courageous engagement in the areas of evangelism and social justice.

Our Leadership Structure: The Executive Director/Minister serves as the chief staff officer of DCBC by administering all funds, programs, and ministries of the Convention under the direction of the Board of Directors. The Executive Director/Minister manages a \$1.2 Million annual budget and leads an eleven-person staff headquartered in Washington, D.C., which is functionally organized as follows: Ministries to Equip Leaders; Ministries to Engage Communities; Ministries to Empower Congregations; Ministries for Communications; and Stewardship and Administration.

Our Website: For additional information regarding DCBC, see our website at www.dcbaptist.org.