In Washington, DC, a new church plant is finding ways to reach the unchurched.
In Washington, DC, a new church plant called District Community is finding ways to reach the unchurched.

Pastor Joanne says, “We wanted to plant a church that would reach young professionals, a church that would reach those that weren’t going to church. We noticed that the number one issue in Washington, DC, is loneliness.” District Community wanted to create a welcoming space where people could know who God is and experience Him through their love, kindness, and compassion.

The District Community church plant has a large team passionate about reaching their city.

“I think it’s great that we’re in the city because . . . there are more people we can reach out to,” says Kim, a worship team leader. “That’s what Jesus did. We’re just spreading the love of God, His Word, so
that anybody that comes through these doors will see Jesus through our church.”

The team plans many creative ways to involve and support the community around them. A free exercise class on the National Mall was one of their first outreach activities. Many people joined in, curious to learn more about the new church.

Since then, many holiday dinners, birthday parties, and other events have supported families in the neighborhood. All these new ideas have helped them succeed in their desire to make people feel the love of Jesus.

Recently, Kim invited a friend who no longer attended church to visit Community District. The friend brought her boyfriend, who doesn’t come from a church background. After the service, they told Kim they had felt at home at the church. “Now she’s part of our worship team, which is amazing,” Kim says. “Her boyfriend’s also serving on our team. So, it’s just things like that: God working in everybody’s lives and seeing the blessings pour out in different ways on individual people.”

District Community has seen its church plant transformed by following Christ’s method of ministry as outlined on page 143 of Ellen White’s book The Ministry of Healing: She wrote, “Christ’s method alone will give true success in reaching the people. The Saviour mingled with men as one who desired their good. He showed His sympathy for them, ministered to their needs, and won their confidence. Then He bade them, ‘Follow Me.’” Many new believers have joined their group, but they want to do more.

“Here at District Community, we want to continue to grow because there are so many people that need to know and experience the love of Jesus,” Joanne says. “But not only grow in this space. We want to multiply . . . to create other campuses . . . where people can know Jesus.

“I believe God has called us to go into all the world to share His love and grace and mercy, and that includes the cities. That’s why we’re going into the city. Because there
are people there that need to know who Jesus is.”
Please pray for church plants such as the District Community that are striving to reach the vast mission field of the cities. Your donations help Global Mission start new groups of believers worldwide. Thank you for your continued support!

Community events are an important part of District Community's mission, including Vacation Bible School programs for children.

Family and friends come to support every new member of the church plant.
Our Greatest Mission Challenges

Adventist Mission refers to our three greatest mission challenges as “the three windows”: (1) the 10/40 Window, (2) the Post-Christian Window, and (3) the Urban Window. The District Community church plant is helping to address the challenges of windows two and three.

The 10/40 Window is an imaginary rectangle between the 10th and 40th parallels north of the equator. It’s home to some 60 percent of the world’s population, the poorest people on earth, and most major world religions. Only 2.6 million Adventist church members are here (12 percent of the world’s membership), while the rest of the world has more than 19 million.

Window two, the Post-Christian Window, refers to Europe, the United States, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, and many other countries rapidly moving away from the Christian faith, as demonstrated by the decrease in church growth and high apostasy rates, especially among young people.

Window three, the Urban Window, found worldwide, is growing rapidly. There are 543 cities with 1 million inhabitants or more. In these cities, there is an average of 1 Adventist for every 89,000 inhabitants. The global average is one Adventist for every 358 inhabitants. Forty-nine cities of a million or more people have fewer than 10 Adventists, and 43 have no Adventist presence.

Please help Global Mission plant new groups of believers among unreached people groups. One hundred percent of your donation goes to the front lines of mission!

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WHAT COULD YOU GIVE UP FOR MISSION?

Whether it’s having dessert or eating out, for one week, what could you sacrifice? The money you saved could be used to support Global Mission pioneers and Urban Centers of Influence in starting new groups of believers among unreached people.

To help share Jesus with unreached people, please scan the QR code below, visit Global-Mission.org/mysacrifice, or mark your tithe envelope Annual Sacrifice Offering on November 11.

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