

DISCOVER *Us*

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

ALIGNED FOR IMPACT: INSIDE DCC'S 2026 LEADERSHIP RETREAT

Planning our way forward with purpose.
PAGE 2

MINISTRY IN ACTION: BUSINESS MEETING RECAP

Sharing DCC's ministry goals, accomplishments and vision for the future.
PAGE 4

DISCOVERING WHO WE ARE: DCC ORIENTATION

How to start your Discover journey with intention.
PAGE 6



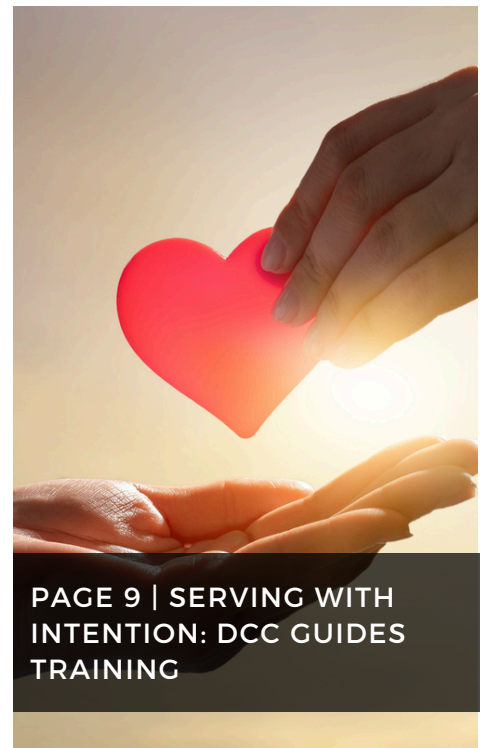
PAGE 7 | SPRING CLEANING EVENT: COMMUNITY IMPACT TOGETHER



PAGE 10 | DISCOVER U: YOUTH CURRICULUM UPDATE



PAGE 8 | WILL TAXES AFFECT YOUR RETIREMENT? A THRIVENT FINANCIAL SEMINAR



PAGE 9 | SERVING WITH INTENTION: DCC GUIDES TRAINING

ALIGNED FOR IMPACT: INSIDE DCC'S 2026 LEADERSHIP RETREAT

As we stepped into 2026, the leadership of Discover Community Church came together in Upper Marlboro, MD on January 9-11 to align our vision, strengthen our strategy, and deepen our commitment to the communities we serve.

Our Leadership Strategic Planning Retreat was a time to pause, reflect, and prepare for what's next.

Leaders gathered to talk about ministry goals and check in with one another spiritually, mentally, physically, financially and socially—because we believe healthy leaders build healthy communities.

Reflecting on Where We've Been

The retreat created space to honestly evaluate 2025 — celebrating wins while also identifying lessons that will shape how we move forward. From communications to ministry impact, each area was examined with intentionality. The goal was to learn, refine and grow.

Planning with Purpose

A major focus of the weekend was setting a clear path for the future.

Leadership engaged in powerful conversations around:

- The financial health of the ministry and long-term sustainability
- A forward-looking vision for 2026–2030
- Strategic planning for teaching, outreach and major initiatives
- Strengthening the discipleship journey from orientation to ongoing growth
- Expanding youth ministry and development
- Ensuring our teaching remains relevant and responsive to today's world

These discussions helped build systems and benchmarks that bring the vision to life in real, measurable ways. These benchmarks will be revisited throughout the year to ensure we are on track to meet our goals.

Continued on page 3



ALIGNED FOR IMPACT: INSIDE DCC'S 2026 LEADERSHIP RETREAT CONT.

Looking Ahead: Building for the Future

Leadership also explored exciting plans for the future of DCC, including:

- Enhancing the in-person worship experience
- Long-term conversations around land, facilities and expansion
- Continued investment in community outreach and engagement

Every conversation pointed back to one central question: How do we better serve our community and reflect the love of Christ in tangible ways?

More Than Strategy—We Are Family

While the retreat was filled with planning and business, it also made room for connection, laughter, and relationship-building.

One of the most powerful moments of the weekend happened on Sunday. For the first time, we opened the doors of the leadership retreat and invited all DCC members to join the conversation. Members of all ages gathered for an honest and open family conversation about DCC. We discussed what has been accomplished so far, where we are headed and how everyone feels about it. This created space to share future plans, upcoming outreach efforts, and key initiatives for the years ahead. This wasn't just a presentation—it was a dialogue. We listened, gathered feedback, and leaned into the voices of the very people we are called to serve.

We are especially proud that our youth participants were actively engaged in the conversation. They freely shared insightful opinions and ideas that will shape future programming and outreach efforts at DCC.

The leadership team left the weekend feeling energized, inspired, and humbled that we have the opportunity to serve such an innovative and impactful community.



MINISTRY IN ACTION: BUSINESS MEETING RECAP

Discover Community Church (DCC) held its business meeting on Feb. 15, immediately following service at Pee Wee Piano. The meeting brought together members and leadership for a meaningful discussion on the church's progress, impact, and vision for the future.

The meeting was facilitated by Chief Operating Officer Cornelius Berkeley, who guided attendees through the agenda. Pastor Wes opened the session by introducing the DCC leadership team, highlighting the dedicated individuals who help drive the church's mission forward.

2025 Year in Review: Director of Communications Lanette Richardson presented a video that showcased the church's outreach efforts and the positive impact made within the community over the past year. The presentation served as a powerful reminder of how DCC continues to be a light beyond its walls.

2026 Outreach Opportunities: A major focus of the meeting was DCC's ongoing and upcoming outreach initiatives. Among the highlights were the Spring Cleaning Community Event, which raised funds for Instant Results Basketball Skills Academy and a three-part financial seminar series covering retirement tax planning, investing in retirement, and caregiver support. DCC will also sponsor and participate in the Black and Missing Foundation's Hope Without Boundaries 5K, host a turkey giveaway for 100 families, recognize over 100 local teachers during Teacher Appreciation Week and celebrate outstanding mothers and fathers on their special days.



2026 DCC Curriculum: Pastor Mike Richardson, outlined a clear and intentional pathway for spiritual growth and engagement within the church. He shared details about the recent DCC Orientation held on March 14, which welcomed new members and provided insight into the church's mission, values, and opportunities for involvement. Pastor Mike also highlighted the Guides Training held on March 21, led by Minister Jamila Logan and First Lady Tarkia Johnson. This training equipped leaders to mentor and support members along their journey effectively. Looking ahead, he announced the launch of another round of the Discover Course (DCC-201) designed to deepen our understanding and commitment to our beliefs. Finally, he also walked through the full curriculum structure, explaining how each class builds upon the next to guide individuals through various stages of connection, service, and leadership within Discover Community Church.



CLICK THE
 LOGO TO
 LEARN MORE
 ABOUT
 INSTANT
 RESULTS

Continued on page 5

MINISTRY IN ACTION: ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING CONT.

2026 Worship Plan: Pastor Wes also shared the church’s worship schedule and plans for the remainder of the year. In April, DCC hosted two services, including Easter and its regular third Sunday worship, and the church will celebrate its 4th anniversary on the third Sunday in May. Summer months will feature watch parties in June and July, with virtual-only services scheduled for the first Sundays in July and September. In August, the church will host a Family Reunion on the third Sunday. From October through December, DCC will hold two services each month at Pee Wee Piano while evaluating attendance, growth and financial sustainability.

2025 Financial Overview: Chief Financial Officer Ericka Price provided an encouraging financial report, noting that the church is in a strong financial position with a healthy savings balance. Looking ahead, DCC plans to begin investing in the market and strengthen its relationship with Thrivent Federal Credit Union. These steps will support future development, allowing the church to expand its impact within the community.

2026 Youth Outlook: Pastor Jason and Tasha Johnson shared exciting updates about Discover U, the church’s youth development program. The ministry continues to thrive, with students making significant progress. Plans are underway for a Sneaker Ball on June 14, to celebrate student achievements. Additional future initiatives include a leadership and STEAM summer camp, college tours, and the inclusion of a youth representative on the leadership team.

DCC Vision Outlook: The meeting concluded with Pastor Wes presenting a bold and inspiring vision for the future. He shared conceptual plans for a community-centered facility. This vision reflects DCC’s commitment to holistic community development and long-term impact.

The business meeting ended on a positive and unified note, with members encouraged by the progress made and inspired by what lies ahead. Discover Community Church remains committed to serving, growing, and building a legacy in the community.



DISCOVERING WHO WE ARE: DCC ORIENTATION

On March 14, Discover Community Church hosted a virtual DCC Orientation led by Pastor Michael Richardson & Pastor Wesley Johnson, creating space for both new and existing partners to learn more about who we are, what we believe and how we live out our mission together.

This wasn't just an information session—it was an invitation into the heart of Discover.

Participants walked through the story of how DCC began and gained a deeper understanding of how our ministry operates. One of the things that continues to set Discover apart is our intentional structure and transparency. Attendees were introduced to our meeting cadence, which includes both in-person gatherings and online opportunities designed to meet people where they are while keeping community at the center.

A key highlight of the session was the finance overview, which emphasized how resources are managed, how giving is used, and our commitment to transparency. It was a clear reminder that stewardship at DCC is handled with integrity and purpose, ensuring that every contribution supports ministry, outreach, and community impact.

Pastor Mike also walked through our core values and doctrinal beliefs, grounding participants in the foundation of our faith while making it practical for everyday living. From there, attendees explored what it means to “love like Jesus” and how that shows up in real, tangible ways.

Another standout moment was the overview of DCC's types of membership, which reflects our understanding that people engage and grow in different ways. Whether someone is ready to fully commit or still exploring, there is space to belong, connect, and take meaningful next steps at their own pace.

The session also highlighted opportunities for engagement, including youth ministry, discipleship pathways, and ways to serve based on individual gifts and talents. Throughout the experience, one message remained clear—everyone has a role to play in what God is building through Discover.

If you missed this session, more opportunities are coming to get connected, learn, and take your next step. We invite you to be part of a community that is intentional about growth, transparency, and impact.



SPRING CLEANING EVENT: COMMUNITY IMPACT TOGETHER

On March 28, Discover Community Church partnered with Prince George’s County Police, Briar Patch Shredding & Recycling, and Got Sneakers? to serve our community in a powerful way—and the community showed up.

The Numbers

- 68 people registered
- 46 cars served
- 79 pairs of sneakers collected
- 41 electronic items recycled
- 22 FULL trash cans shredded

This event helped protect families from identity theft, practiced responsible stewardship of our environment, and supported our youth by raising funds to benefit Instant Results Basketball Skills Academy.



Every pair of sneakers collected helps fuel the mission of Instant Results—an organization committed to developing young athletes both on and off the court. Through training, mentorship, and character-building, they’re shaping the next generation with discipline, leadership, and confidence. It’s bigger than basketball—it’s about giving our youth the tools to succeed in life. Discover Community Church is proud to support the incredible work they’re doing.

A special thank you to everyone who helped make this event a success. Our volunteers greeted the community, directed traffic, collected items and ensured everything ran smoothly. We also extend our appreciation to the Prince George’s County Police Department (District III Station) for partnering with DCC and helping create space for opportunities that allow us to stay engaged and impactful in our communities.

This is just the beginning. More opportunities are on the way to serve, connect and grow together.



WILL TAXES AFFECT YOUR RETIREMENT? A THRIVENT FINANCIAL SEMINAR

On Sunday, March 29, we partnered with [Thrivent Financial Services](#) to host the first of three free virtual seminars, “Will Taxes Affect Your Retirement?”—an important conversation designed to help our community make informed, confident financial decisions.

Led by financial advisor Seythe McCoy, the session provided valuable insight into how taxes can impact retirement planning and what steps individuals can take now to prepare for the future.



Seythe McCoy

One of the key takeaways from the seminar was simple but powerful: Retirement isn’t just about how much you save—it’s also about how your money is taxed. Participants learned that different types of accounts are taxed in different ways—some now, some later, and some potentially not at all.

This concept of tax diversification—having a mix of taxable, tax-deferred, and tax-free income sources—can play a major role in long-term financial stability.

The session also highlighted several important realities:

- Taxes today may not be the same in the future, especially with potential changes to tax laws in the coming years
- Social Security benefits can be taxed depending on your total income—not just the benefits themselves
- Planning ahead can help reduce the likelihood of higher taxes during retirement

These insights helped attendees begin thinking more strategically about how and when they access their retirement income.

Seythe McCoy also walked participants through practical strategies that can help minimize tax impact over time, including:

- Utilizing Roth accounts for potential tax-free withdrawals
- Exploring municipal bonds as a source of tax-advantaged income
- Considering how life insurance and other tools can support long-term financial planning

Each strategy reinforced the importance of being proactive rather than reactive with your financial planning. The goal of the seminar was to equip people with knowledge that can change their future. We understand that financial health is a key part of overall well-being. When individuals and families are informed, they are better positioned to build stability, create a legacy, and serve their communities with confidence.

Events like this are part of our ongoing commitment to provide resources that support healing, education, and empowerment—not just inside the church, but in everyday life. Whether you’re just starting to think about retirement or looking to refine your current plan, we encourage you to continue learning, asking questions, and seeking wise counsel.

REGISTER FOR OUR NEXT SEMINAR, “INVESTING FOR YOUR RETIREMENT” COMING UP ON MAY 31!

SERVING WITH INTENTION: DCC GUIDES TRAINING

On March 21, Discover Community Church took an exciting step forward in strengthening how we love, serve, and connect with one another through the very first DCC Guides Training—an empowering and deeply reflective session led by our Director of Engagement, Jamila Rawlings Logan and First Lady, Tarkia Johnson.

The training opened with a powerful reminder that effective service doesn't start with what we do—it starts with who we are. Participants were challenged to rethink the idea of self-love, not as something selfish, but as stewardship. Through scripture, reflection, and real-life insight, we explored a simple but transformative truth: You cannot pour into others from an empty place.

This foundational concept set the stage for everything that followed—calling each participant to examine how their relationship with God and themselves shapes the way they show up for others.

The training continued with Jamila walking attendees through a practical framework for engaging others. Rather than rushing to fix or judge, Guides are trained to:

- See clearly beyond surface behavior
- Feel with compassion that moves beyond words
- Serve with care using what they already have
- Support consistently beyond the first interaction

Through real-life scenarios and group discussions, participants began shifting their perspective—from seeing “problems” to seeing people with needs. That shift alone sparked meaningful conversations and reflection across the room.

DCC's commitment to healing, love, and unity was woven throughout the training, especially in conversations around emotional safety and awareness.



Attendees learned how to:

- Respect boundaries and prioritize consent
- Offer support without overwhelming others
- Listen with intention and without judgment
- Recognize when someone may need a higher level of care

The goal is to be intentional, discerning and Spirit-led in every interaction.

The session also introduced attendees to the heart behind DCC Guides and the different ways individuals can serve—from hospitality and coordination to one-on-one support for new members.

Rather than fitting people into roles, the focus was on alignment—helping each person discover where their natural gifts, personality and passion can thrive in service.

DCC's foundation includes a shared commitment to becoming a church that doesn't just welcome people—but truly sees, cares for and walks with them. The Guides training is a key part of this mission. We are excited to see this vision come to life and believe it will position us to “Love God, Love People, and Make a Difference” with even greater care & intention.

DISCOVER U: YOUTH CURRICULUM UPDATE

The Discover U youth curriculum has provided students with meaningful lessons focused on personal growth, leadership, and character development.

Throughout the sessions, students have become more confident in expressing themselves, listening to others, and reflecting on their own values and choices. Their growth has been evident in the way they participate in discussions, support one another, and apply what they've learned to real-life situations.



We have received great feedback from students, particularly about how engaging and relatable the lessons have been. One standout session focused on Service, where students explored the question: "Would you rather wear an apron or a crown?" This sparked an eye-opening conversation as each student shared a unique perspective on leadership, humility and serving others. The discussion highlighted how service can look different for everyone and helped students recognize the value of leading by example.

As the program comes to a close, students are nearly finished with the curriculum and are looking forward to celebrating their hard work and commitment with a **Sneaker Ball**. This celebration will honor their progress, growth, and the positive community they've built together through Discover U.



IN CASE YOU MISSED IT: CATCH UP ON DCC SERMONS

Catch up or rewatch your favorites on our YouTube channel using the buttons below.



Make It Make Sense (3-Part Series) - Pastor Wes



Yesss Queen! - Tasha Johnson



No Place Like Home - Aisha Berkeley



WHAT'S NEXT: JOIN US AT OUR UPCOMING EVENTS

Click the images below for registration links.



4th CHURCH Anniversary
SUNDAY MAY 17

We will celebrate with a service project wrapping gifts for **Extra-Ordinary Birthdays**

extra-ordinary BIRTHDAYS

4



DISCOVER
Amazing! FATHERS
 NOMINATIONS OPEN UNTIL JUNE 8TH



HOPE 5K
 WITHOUT BOUNDARIES

Join or Donate to Team Discover!
 Saturday, May 30, 2026 9:00 a.m.
 National Harbor

TEAM DISCOVER DONATION LINK

SCAN ME

#HELPUSEFINOUS

DISCOVER
 COMMUNITY CHURCH



DISCOVER
 COMMUNITY CHURCH

Sneaker BALL
 CELEBRATE OUR YOUTH

JUNE 14, 2026 - 4:00 - 7:00 P.M.
 CANTERBURY HALL
 3125 RITCHIE RD, FORESTVILLE, MD

YOUTH \$10 **ADULTS \$25**

MUSIC + DANCING + FOOD + FUN

ATTIRE: SEMI FORMAL/FORMAL WITH SNEAKERS

TICKETS

www.comediscver.org



DISCOVER + **thrivent**
 COMMUNITY CHURCH

Investing For Your Retirement Virtual Seminar

May 31, 2026
2:30 p.m.

Register



Join Us

THIRD SUNDAYS
 11:00 AM

PEE WEE PIANO SCHOOL OF THE ARTS
 6717 GLENN DALE RD, GLENN DALE, MD

DCC LIVE

LOVE GOD. LOVE PEOPLE. MAKE A DIFFERENCE.

DISCOVER
 COMMUNITY CHURCH
www.comediscver.org

DISCOVER SOMETHING DIFFERENT: HOW WE DO CHURCH

Watch Parties - 1st Sundays 11:00 a.m.

A Watch Party is an in-person gathering to view the stream of Discover's Sunday service with other Discover family and friends. Gatherings are hosted in Maryland and Virginia on Sundays at 11 a.m. and are followed by The Hang Out. Light refreshments are served.

DCC Live - 3rd Sundays 11:00 a.m.

Our live service experience with fellowship, music and an engaging sermon. Join us at Pee Wee Piano School of the Arts (6717 Glenn Dale Rd, Glenn Dale, MD 20769).

The Hang Out - 1st and 3rd Sundays

The Hang Out is an open forum for Watch Party and DCC Live attendees to discuss the sermon, current events, and hear from each other. These discussions are often very lively, informative and insightful. It's a great addition to the Sunday experience.

Self-Care Sunday - 2nd and 4th Sundays

Self-Care Sundays allow us a chance to decompress, unwind and refuel. We take a break from service and encourage everyone to hang out with family & friends, do brunch, catch a movie, relax and more. The goal is to take a day off and spend time doing whatever fills your cup.

Service Sunday - 5th Sundays

The Discover family collaborates on community service projects every 5th Sunday to give back and make an impact in our surrounding communities. We also have a lot of fun in the process. Participating students can earn community service hours on Service Sundays.

Stay Connected

We hope you enjoyed our quarterly newsletter and the opportunities to connect with Discover Community Church through our Watch Parties and outreach events. We encourage you to stay connected to hear more about where we are headed and how you can be a part of it. There are several ways you can stay in touch:



Digital Connection Form

If you want to stay connected, this is the first move you should make. Completing this form ensures you are in our database and part of our mailing list for updates, future newsletters and Discover news and events.



Our Website

This is the hub for Discover Community Church. Join our live stream, register for Watch Parties, give online, find event registration links, view past services, and find out more about our story here.



YouTube

Visit our YouTube page to watch our past services and other special content.



Social Media

Get connected for photos, videos, upcoming events, and more!