



REID TEMPLE AME CHURCH

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Forward

ANNUAL REPORT
CONFERENCE YEAR 2025-2026



FAITH FORWARD: THE JOURNEY CONTINUES

This conference year, Reid Temple AME Church has remained steadfast and unmovable as we continue our spiritual journey to build the Beloved Community. Known for our warmth and radical hospitality, Reid Temple has kept our momentum and quickened our pace, covering new territory as we spread the Word and the love of Jesus.

Even in the midst of an uncertain and often challenging landscape, marked by economic instability, job loss, rising costs, and global conflict, we have pressed forward with unwavering faith, grounded in this assurance: if God is for us, who can be against us?

Guided by our quarterly spiritual themes, we moved intentionally throughout the year. From April through June, we were “On a Mission,” focused on discipling, baptizing, and teaching within the church and throughout our community. From July through September, we boldly declared that “Worship Works,” living out our faith in both word and action. From October through December, we embraced “Pure Praise,” while January’s “Passionate Prayers” called us to quiet reflection, centering ourselves in prayer as we prepared for the new year.

As our online community continues to grow, we now reach an average of 25,000 worshippers each month across Sunday Services and Bible Studies. During the week, more than 250 individuals gather each morning, Monday through Friday at 6:00 AM, for Rise Up! Wake Up! Pray Up!, a service birthed during the pandemic by Pastor Mark E. Whitlock Jr. to foster prayer, connection, and spiritual grounding during uncertain times.

Reid Temple ministries continue to serve the Beloved Community with boldness and compassion across our church and throughout the DMV. Dedicated volunteers continue to distribute groceries each month in partnership with the Capital Area Food Bank; support returning citizens and minister to those who are incarcerated; provide food, prayer, clothing, and essential resources to our unhoused neighbors; care for our youth by delivering Christmas gifts and supplying local schools with clothing, backpacks, and supplies; and remain present with our seniors through wellness calls and visits. Our annual #GivingTuesday campaign continues to bless us with additional resources to do more.

Finally, with our heartfelt love and thanks, we celebrate the retirement of Pastor Mark E. Whitlock Jr. and First Lady, Rev. Hermia Shegog Whitlock after seven years of dedicated and unwavering service to Reid Temple AME Church. God blessed us with spirit-filled, compassionate and caring leaders that moved the congregation into greater spiritual growth and levels of kingdom building. Their love and leadership will forever be remembered and cherished by the Reid Temple family and community.

CONTINUING IN *His Service*

Reid Temple AME Church continues its mission to fulfill the vision of building the Beloved Community.

VISION

Reid Temple AME Church is a Bible-believing, Christ-centered, Family-integrated, Multigenerational, and Culturally aware church, spreading the gospel of Jesus Christ while “Building the Beloved Community.”

MISSION

The mission of Reid Temple AME Church is to increase and grow our ministry for the spiritual, social, and physical development of all people.

CORE VALUES

- Faith in God
- Integrity, Trust, and Ethical Behavior
- Empowering People
- Excellence and Innovation
- Christ-centered Leadership

CRITICAL GOAL CATEGORIES OF THE 2022-2025 STRATEGIC PLAN

Member & Membership Growth | Increase overall membership and membership engagement. Improve Member Retention | Improve/Increase and Reimagine spaces for Families.

Debt Free for Thee – Eliminate \$9M Church Debt | Eliminate \$9M of debt to free up resources not only to build but also to grow the Beloved Community.

Increase and Invest in Motivated and Skilled Staff & Volunteers | Improve our hiring and increase recruitment to include interns | Strengthen talent development | Invest in continual training and development.

Community Commitment – Support Our Community | Identify areas of need in our community and commit to being part of the solution | **Food Insecurity – Capital Area Food Bank Outreach** | Commit to multicultural ministry and evangelism.

Invest in New Demographic & Market-Penetration Strategies | Grow digital reach by investing in online evangelism to create and grow an Online Campus.

FAITH FORWARD: THE JOURNEY CONTINUES

From the Annual Prayer March to supporting DMV community shelters, food pantries, local schools, nursing home visitations, and ministering to the incarcerated, Reid Temple and our 501c3 organizations are making an impact inside and outside of the walls of the church.

Community Outreach & Basic Needs

- Capital Food Drive-Thru Distribution
- Master's Touch Outreach
- Greensboro Men's Shelter
- Blood Drive
- Faith & Blue Clothing Giveaway
- Souper Bowl of Caring
- Obama Shoebox Toiletry Drive
- Back to School Drives
- Clear the Clutter Shred Event

25K Fed

2K Incarcerated & Returning Citizens Served

50 Sick & Shut-in Served

417 Pastoral Care Calls

800 Christmas Gifts Donated

1.5K Clothing, Backpacks, School Supplies and Other Essentials Provided

\$85K Reid Temple Scholarships

Spiritual Engagement & Prayer

- Weekly Worship Service
- Rise Up! Wake Up! Pray Up!
- Weekly Prayer Call
- 31 Days of Prayer
- Annual Prayer Walk
- Prayer Workshop

Justice, Re-entry & Economic Empowerment

- Re-entry Roundtable (Prince George's County)
- Expungement & Job Fair
- Returning Citizens Symposium
- Employment Assistance Ministry
- Small Business Sunday

Youth & Education Initiatives

- Reid Temple Scholarships
- Brilliant Futures Program (Bradbury Heights Elementary)
- Reid Temple Christian Academy
- YPD Agape Angels Prom Extravaganza
- Easter Eggstravaganza
- Holy Harvest
- Duval High School Welcome Back
- Sponsor-A-Child Christmas Gifts
- Boy and Girl Scouts of America

Health, Wellness, & Family Life

- Men's Health Forum
- Cancer Ministry Forum
- Marriage Ministry Game Night
- Boys to Men Forum
- Women's "Do It For Culture"
- We Care: Care for the Caregiver

FAITH FORWARD: THE JOURNEY CONTINUES

MEMBERSHIP

6.6K Total Members

- 531 Youth
- 2.9K Adults
- 783 Young Adults
- 2.3K Seniors

AVERAGE ATTENDANCE

- In-Person Sunday Service: 1K
- In-Person R3 Youth Church: 60
- Online Worship Services: 25,385

MINISTRY IMPACT

- 60 Active Ministries
- 650 Ministry Volunteers

DIGITAL ENGAGEMENT



Website

- Visitors: 160K
- New Visitors: 36K
- Page Views: 471,736K



YouTube

- Views: 257.2K
 - Watch time: 79.2K hours
- TOTAL SUBSCRIBERS: 15.2K



Facebook

- Reach: 192.3K
- Content Interactions: 31.2K
- Page Visits: 1.1M
- Followers: 18.7K

FAITH FORWARD: THE JOURNEY CONTINUES

OUR YOUTH - HOW WE ARE BUILDING THE BELOVED COMMUNITY

Our youth ministry strives to create an atmosphere where youth from 2 years to 18 years can begin to develop a healthy relationship with God and others. Their relationship with Jesus Christ is an essential part of childhood development. The ministries that serve our youth are specially designed to meet the unique developmental and learning needs of youth. Intergenerational relationships are fostered and a high priority is placed upon children building relationships with one another and positive mentors and role models.

Every Sunday our youth are leading, learning, and worshipping in Youth Church, including a youth praise team and dance ministry. And every 5th Sunday, the R3 Youth Choir ministers to the glory of God in the Sanctuary at the 9:30am Worship Service. Their service to the community includes assisting in the monthly Capital Area Food Bank Grocery Drive Through, visiting nursing homes with the Missionaries, collecting school supplies, backpacks and clothes for those in need and much more.

And when it's time for our teens to head off to college, the Reid Temple Scholarship program provides an opportunity to sow into the futures of our students. We thank God for the \$85K awarded in scholarships. They are a meaningful way to honor the connection between education and faith.

As we look ahead, we remain committed to nurturing a generation that is grounded in faith, guided by purpose, and equipped to lead with compassion and conviction. Through intentional discipleship, meaningful engagement, and unwavering support, our youth ministry will continue to empower young people to grow in Christ, serve others, and carry forward the mission of building the Beloved Community, both within our church and beyond.



FAITH FORWARD: THE JOURNEY CONTINUES

REID COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION (REID CDC)

Reid Community Development Corporation (Reid CDC) celebrated an impactful and inspiring 2025, highlighted by the continued success of its Brilliant Futures Program in partnership with the Greater Washington Community Foundation. Now in its second year, the program supports young students at Bradbury Heights Elementary School located in Capital Heights, Maryland by building long-term financial security through annual \$1,000 investment deposits, empowering children in the graduating classes of 2037 and 2038 to pursue higher education, homeownership, entrepreneurship, or personal savings. Reid CDC also deepened family engagement by recruiting and supporting participating families while strengthening collaboration with school staff.

Throughout the year, Reid CDC brought eligible families from the Bradbury Heights Elementary School together through engaging events such as Family Fun Night, Fall Festival, Ice Cream Social, Kindergarten promotion ceremonies, and the Winter Holiday Program. In partnership with the Greater Washington Community Foundation, the organization also provided winter hats, scarves, and gloves to at least 65 students, along with treat bags and stickers ensuring students felt supported and celebrated. Building on this strong foundation, Reid CDC looks ahead to 2026 with excitement, committed to expanding its reach and continuing to uplift families through meaningful, community-centered initiatives.

REID TEMPLE CHRISTIAN ACADEMY (RCTA)

Reid Temple Christian Academy celebrates an extraordinary 2025–2026 school year marked by excellence, faith, growth, and purpose. With 235 vibrant scholars, our community continues to flourish as a place where academic achievement and spiritual development are nurtured together. Our students have exceeded expectations in the classroom, performing above grade level and demonstrating strong mastery of critical concepts, with impressive growth on the NWEA assessments in reading and mathematics. Just as importantly, they are growing in character, leading service initiatives such as the Angel Tree collection and Love Food Drive, reflecting the love of Christ through compassion and action. Guided by this year's theme, "Let Your Light Shine" (Matthew 5:16), our scholars have embraced every opportunity to reflect God's light in both word and deed. Our commitment to developing the whole child is evident across every area of school life, from the leadership of the National Junior Honor Society to meaningful traditions like our Christmas Production and a wide range of athletic programs that build teamwork, discipline, and confidence.

We are especially proud of our 8th-grade scholars, whose academic excellence and leadership have earned acceptance into some of the most prestigious high schools in the DMV area, along with competitive scholarships in STEM and the arts. At the heart of it all is our weekly Chapel, where scholars lead in worship and our community is united in faith and purpose. As we celebrate 20 years of impact, we are deeply grateful to Reid Temple AME Church for its unwavering support and vision. With hearts full of gratitude and eyes toward the future, we remain committed to excellence, to faith, and to God's calling, confident that the light of RTCA will continue to shine brightly.



FAITH *Forward*

ANNUAL REPORT

A NOTE OF THANKS

As we continue to build God's Kingdom here on earth it would not have been possible without the work, commitment, dedication, and sacrifice of all of our amazing leaders and volunteers. Special thanks to our Stewards, Trustees, Ministers, Ministry Leaders, and Staff.

"HAVE FAITH IN GOD"

**CONNECT
WITH US**

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