

The Story of Church of the Advent

Church of the Advent, founded in 2007 as a mission of the Church of the Resurrection, was born of a desire to bring renewal to the city of Washington, D.C.

Life in Washington, D.C., while fast-paced and at times exhilarating, can soon give way to disillusionment. For the “elites” and idealists who come hoping to change the world, government bureaucracy or encounters with self-interested leaders often breed cynicism. Meanwhile, the poor and marginalized may feel acute alienation in a city that cares *about* the world but not *for* them. Put plainly, the Washington ideals—education and ambition, wealth and power—promise but do not deliver; Jesus Christ offers the only real hope for the city. Yet most people who live in D.C. still have not met him, and what they have perceived of the Church is often so distorted as to be unrecognizable.

Psalm 68:6 says that God sets the lonely in families. Church of the Advent desires to be such a family for the people of D.C.: to welcome the lonely; care for the broken-hearted; share their struggles, doubts, and fears; and together proclaim and experience the life-changing love of God. Church of the Advent sees the Church not as a building or a social club, but as a growing family meant to embody all that God is doing in the world.

Church of the Advent began in 2007 as a living room gathering in an apartment on Newton Street, NW. As the church grew, it relocated seven times. They have worshiped in four different churches in the Columbia Heights neighborhood and two separate schools in the Brookland neighborhood. They now meet at Takoma Park Seventh Day Adventist Church. While grateful for each of their hosts, the church has also experienced incredible space insecurity and accompanying disruption with each move. Yet their sense of calling to the city has only grown.

In 2022, Church of the Advent formally launched a capital campaign called the [Home Campaign](#) to raise funds to purchase a building in the city. In summer 2023, a beautiful historic building, formerly Third Baptist Church, located in D.C.'s Shaw neighborhood, came on the market. Church of the Advent purchased Third Baptist Church in January 2024 and began seeking permits and fundraising to make the renovations required to occupy this space. They hope to move into their new home this fall. [Read the latest updates here](#) and pray that the work will be completed on time and that they would use this building to honor the Lord.

Advent's story is still unfolding. The church longs to serve the city of Washington, D.C., with humility and faithfulness, and to see the city renewed by the gospel of Jesus Christ, so that all people might come to know the beauty and goodness of God.

[Learn more about Church of the Advent.](#)