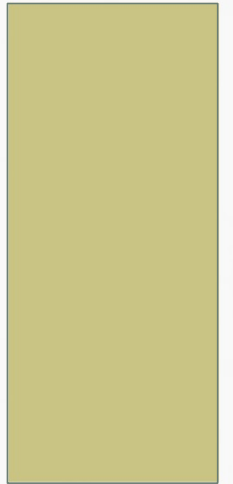


ASBC SOCIAL JUSTICE MINISTRY

101 PRESENTATION



INTRODUCTION

- Who We Are?
 - Our Mission
 - Our Theology
 - Our Scriptural Foundation
 - Our Background
 - Our Vision
 - Our Values
- What We do?
 - Our Focus
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 - Our Strategy and Tactics
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WHO WE ARE?

- **Our Mission**

The Social Justice Ministry of Alfred Street Baptist Church works to address the root causes of modern day injustice. We serve as a clearinghouse to raise awareness, share information, and convene social justice events to spark action. We serve as a catalyst to increase commitment to advance justice within Alfred Street Baptist Church, the greater Washington D.C. area, the United States of America, and the world.

WHO WE ARE?

- **OUR THEOLOGY**

- All humans are created in the image of God.
- Social and racial injustice is systemic sin that disrupts the relationship between God and his people because it devalues the divinity of all humanity.
- It is theologically untrue that sin gets better over time. Rather, the Bible teaches that sin and its effects grow worse over time.
- Jesus Christ is the remedy for all sin. Relationship with Jesus Christ restores a right relationship between people and God.
- Restored relationship between people and God is partly evident by just relationships throughout communities.
- Racial and social justice action is an essential function of Christian evangelism, discipleship and worship.

WHO WE ARE?

- **Our Scriptural Foundation**

- Genesis 1:26-27 – **The image of God in all humanity**
- Mark 12:30-31 – **The commandment and ethic of love**
- Isaiah 61 – **The heart for God for justice**
- 1 Chronicles 7:12-16 – **The power of prayer**
- 2 Corinthians 10:1-6 – **The weapons of spiritual warfare**
- Nehemiah 4; Jeremiah 1:9-10 – **The call and work of rebuilding community**
- Matthew 25:31-40 – **The Good Samaritan to the least of these**

WHO WE ARE?

- **Background**

- Social Justice Ministry founded in 2012
- 400 members totaling on Ministry listserve
- 100 members directly active

- **Pastoral Founding**

- **Founded by Pastor Wesley's pulpit directive, following his sermon on the Trayvon Martin killing**
- On Sunday March 25, 2012, Reverend Dr. Howard- John Wesley took to the pulpit to respond to the murder of Trayvon Martin. Entitled, '[A Rizpah Response](#)' we were reminded of the importance of connecting our faith to justice.
- Adam Taylor, Min. William Spencer and Min. Yvonne Hawkins were instrumental in creating the initial framework for the ministry.

WHO WE ARE?

- **Our Vision**
 - All people are respected and treated equally
 - All people are valued for how God made them and their culture
 - All people are empowered to fulfill God's Will for their lives and achieve their goals and purpose
- **Our Values**
 - We affirm the legacy of the black church as a conduit for the work of God, healing of black people and racial reconciliation. Therefore, our work is unashamedly Christian.
 - We affirm Alfred Street Baptist Church's core values:
 - Excellence
 - Stewardship
 - Relationship
 - Evangelism.
 - We affirm Social Justice Ministry core values:
 - Biblical authority (Deuteronomy 6:1-3)
 - Love (Mark 12:31-31)
 - Prayer (2 Chronicles 7:12-16)
 - Multigenerational bonds (Deuteronomy 6:6-9)

WHAT WE DO

- **Our Focus**

- We target modern systems of social sin and work to replace them with systems that affirm the divinity of humanity.
- Specifically, we work to bring about: criminal justice reform, economic justice, voting rights and empowerment, education reform, racial reconciliation, and environmental justice.

- **Our Strategy**

- We work with ASBC leadership, ASBC strategic partners and elected officials to:
 - **Build and Fight (Nehemiah 4; Jeremiah 1:9-10)**
 - Integrate biblical and theological education about the connections of racial justice action and Christian witness.
 - Establish a churchwide praxis of prayer as an essential tool for Christian racial justice action.
 - Create a churchwide praxis of social justice action as an essential function of Christian witness
 - **Weep and Work (Isaiah 61)**
 - Celebrate black people and culture inside and outside of Alfred Street Baptist Church
 - Respond to crises that erupt due to racial injustice
 - Offer prophetic grief for the injury of black people due to racial injustice.
 - Establish strategic partnerships with external partners for charity efforts and social justice action

WHAT WE DO

6 Pillars of Social Justice

1. **Criminal Justice Reform**
 - Create opportunities for community education on the impact of unjust criminal sentencing policies and mass incarceration have on black people and people of color, and highlight the complexities associated with citizens returning to society
2. **Economic Justice**
 - Address root causes of economic inequality in our communities by examining official policy provisions of equitable allocation of resources and create opportunities for education around economic justice to aid in the dismantling of systems that perpetuate undesirable conditions of job insecurity, homelessness, and hunger
3. **Education Reform**
 - Increase awareness of our education system where inequity is present in the distribution of resources and funding, local and federal education legislation, the achievement gap, and the school-to-prison pipeline
 - Collaborate with strategic partners to highlight educational opportunities (scholarships, professional development)
4. **Racial Healing & Reconciliation**
 - Cultivate community partnerships to promote justice, equality, and cultural comprehension to facilitate cohesiveness and healing
 - Develop communal understanding of racism a primary source of systemic inequality
5. **Voter Education Empowerment**
 - Provide educational resources to ensure citizens know their rights and can engage in the political process in an informed manner
 - Raise community awareness of the political process through voter registration drives, canvassing, political candidate forums, education seminars on voter suppression, gerrymandering, the Census, and restoration of rights.
6. **Environmental Justice**
 - Bring awareness to systemic environmental inequities to black and brown communities
 - Illuminate the misuse of natural resources and identify corrective action for a sustainable planet
 - Provide pathways to ensure a viable environment for all with education, resources, and policy recommendations

The Six pillars serve as the basis for developing ministry programming -we have established working subcommittees to execute the work and carry out the objectives of each pillar.