



蓋城華人宣道會
Gaithersburg Chinese Alliance Church



Gaithersburg International
Christian Fellowship

Our Story

Gaithersburg Chinese Alliance Church (GCAC) was founded in Gaithersburg, Maryland in 1985. Our first worship service was held on October 6, 1985 in Casey Community Center, with Rev. Dr. David Wong as our founding pastor. He and his wife, Nancy and two children were sent out by Wheaton Chinese Alliance Church (Illinois) which was their first church plant.

Our Pastors and Ministers

1985-1990 Rev. Dr. David Wong, Founding Pastor
1989-2000 Rev. John Tsang, Assistant Pastor (1989-1990), Senior Pastor (1990- 2000)
1994-1998 Rev. Thomas Wong, Assistant Pastor, English Congregation 1997-2002
Rev. Dr. Gordon Cathey, Advisory Pastor
1998-2010 Rev. Donald Weidemann, Associate Pastor, English Congregation 2002-
2011 Rev. Dr. Timothy Chan, Senior Pastor
2005-2013 Rev. Moses Lam, Assistant Pastor, English Congregation
2008-2013 Mrs. Angela Fu, Minister of Counseling
2011-2013 Rev. Donald Weidemann, Interim Pastor
2011-Present Mrs. Rebecca Tsang, Minister
2013-2018 Rev. Tom He, Senior Pastor
2014-2019 Rev. Stephen Zuber, Assistant Pastor, English Congregation
2019-2021 Rev. Dr. David Wong, Advisory Pastor
2021-2022 Rev. Michael Chang, Advisory Pastor
2022-Present Rev. Julio Orozco Sr., GICF Lead Pastor
2022-Present Mr. Wayne Jau, Minister, GCAC Lead Pastor

Our Worship Locations

October 6, 1985 First worship service at Casey community Center, 810 S Frederick Ave, Gaithersburg, MD 20877

October 9, 1987 Fellowship House purchased on current property - 13101 Darnestown

Rd, Gaithersburg, MD 20878

November 6, 1988 started renting Jones Lane Elementary School - 15110 Jones lane, Gaithersburg, MD 20878

May 8, 1994 Dedication of sanctuary building

January, 2002 Property adjacent to the church - 13009 Darnestown Road, Gaithersburg, MD 20878 was purchased for \$383,000. Currently, it is used as church office and ministry purposes

Our Mission

The church's theme in 2024 is "Abide In Christ". Our mission statement was adopted after the church went through a Church Health Assessment in 2018. It states:

Our mission at GCAC is to Glorify God by
Connecting People to God and one another
Growing as authentic followers of Jesus Christ
Impacting our community, locally and globally

Our Values

Values matter because they describe the way that we will live. The following Five Values are not exclusive, but they are essential. These are not just ideas we believe; these are things we are committed to living out as a church.

1. **The Importance of Living a Surrendered Life**

We are committed to the authority of the Word of God and to complete dependence on God's Spirit, rather than our own abilities.

II Timothy 3:16-17, John 15:5, Philippians 4:13

2. **The Maintaining of Unity**

We are committed to maintaining unity in order to fulfill Jesus' prayer "*...May they be brought to complete unity to let the world know that you sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me.*"

3. The Priority of Servanthood

The true measure of greatness in the Kingdom of God is the possession of a servant's heart. We believe in following the example of Jesus in sacrificially serving one another in love.

Matthew 20:26-28, Philippians 2:5, 7

4. The Devotion to Prayer

We view prayer not just as preparation for the work of the Kingdom, but as the vital work itself. We believe in glorifying God by seeking Him and depending on Him in all things and for all things through prayer and intercession.

Colossians 4:2, Philippians 4:6, I Thessalonians 5:16-18, I Timothy 2:1-4

5. The Necessity of Grace

It's all by the grace of God that we can turn from sin, love Jesus and live lives that honor Him! We celebrate this transforming grace and proclaim our dependence on God Himself to supply what He commands!

Ephesians 6:24, Titus 3:11-12, Philippians 2:13

Our Structure

Governing Board

The highest functioning authority of the local church shall be the Governing Board with Elders serving in the majority. Governing Board members are elected, and along with the Lead Pastors provide oversight of the ministry and operation of the church.

Elders

The Elders are elected by the congregation to give direction to the spiritual life of the church. They serve in a spiritual capacity. They also create and maintain stability in potentially negative situations, and provide pastoral care in conjunction with our care team.

Our Beliefs

God

There is one God, who is infinitely perfect, existing eternally in three persons: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Jesus

Jesus Christ is true God and true man. He was conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He died upon the cross, the Just for the unjust, as a substitutionary sacrifice, and all who believe in Him are justified on the ground of His shed blood. He arose from the dead according to the Scriptures. He is now at the right hand of the Majesty on high as our great High Priest. He will come again to establish His kingdom of righteousness and peace.

Holy Spirit

The Holy Spirit is a divine Person, sent to indwell, guide, teach and empower the believer, and to convince the world of sin, of righteousness and of judgment.

Bible

The Old and New Testaments, inerrant as originally given, were verbally inspired by God and are a complete revelation of His will for the salvation of people. They constitute the divine and only rule of Christian faith and practice.

Sin

Humankind, originally created in the image and likeness of God, fell through disobedience, incurring thereby both physical and spiritual death. All people are born with a sinful nature, are separated from the life of God, and can be saved only through the atoning work of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Freedom from Sin

Salvation has been provided only through Jesus Christ. Those who repent and believe in Him are united with Christ through the Holy Spirit and are thereby regenerated (born again), justified, sanctified and granted the gift of eternal life as adopted children of God.

Christian Living

It is the will of God that in union with Christ each believer should be sanctified thoroughly thereby being separated from sin and the world and fully dedicated to God, receiving power for holy living and sacrificial and effective service toward the completion of Christ's commission. This is accomplished through being filled with the Holy Spirit which is both a distinct event and progressive experience in the life of the believer.

Healing

Provision is made in the redemptive work of the Lord Jesus Christ for the healing of the mortal body. Prayer for the sick and anointing with oil as taught in the Scriptures are privileges for the Church in this present age.

Church

The universal Church, of which Christ is the Head, consists of all those who believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, are redeemed through His blood, regenerated by the Holy Spirit, and commissioned by Christ to go into all the world as a witness, preaching the Gospel to all nations.

The local church, the visible expression of the universal Church, is a body of believers in Christ who are joined together to worship God, to observe the ordinances of Baptism and the Lord's Supper, to pray, to be edified through the Word of God, to fellowship, and to testify in word and deed to the good news of salvation both locally and globally. The local church enters into relationships with other like-minded churches for accountability, encouragement and mission.

Life after death

There shall be a bodily resurrection of the just and of the unjust; for the former, a resurrection unto life; for the latter, a resurrection unto judgment.

Second Coming of Christ

The second coming of the Lord Jesus Christ is imminent and will be personal and visible. As the believer's blessed hope, this vital truth is an incentive for holy living and sacrificial service toward the completion of Christ's commission.

Our Church Life

Worship

When GCAC was launched, worship services were conducted in a bi-lingual format using English and translating into Mandarin Chinese. The church began to have separate English and Mandarin Chinese services in 1991. A Cantonese worship service was added in 2004. While the Cantonese worship service ended in 2020 due to Covid-19, its ministries continue. The English congregation was “rebooted” as Gaithersburg International Christian Fellowship (GICF) on October 6, 2019 at GCAC’s 34th anniversary.

Our Affiliation

GCAC is part of the world-wide ministry of The Christian and Missionary Alliance. The Pastor shall be called by the Governing Board and appointed by the District Superintendent after conferring with the Governing Board. Upon his appointment by the District Superintendent, a pastor and his wife become members of this church.

Appendix:

A. By-laws

B. 2023 Annual Report

C. Finances