



THE CANAAN MESSENGER

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SENIOR PASTOR

George R. Waters
CHAIRMAN,
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CHAIRMAN,
TRUSTEE MINISTRY

From the Pastor's Desk

Celebrating 19 Years of God's Grace

Over the last nineteen years, God has favored the partnership between the Canaanites and the Brennan Family. As "The Gem of Germantown," we have grown in remarkable ways, including:

Unity Worship: Launched a vibrant service with live musicians, instrumental band every Sunday, vocal directors, Diaconate Prayer Intercession, Pass the Peace, Greeters, Praise Dance, and Mime. Since 2006, more than 1,000 new disciples have joined Canaan!

Discipleship & Mentorship: Implemented a leading-edge curriculum and Family & Friends Mentorship ministry, significantly improving new member retention.

MINISTERS MINISTRY

To God be the Glory, for He is my all and all. The Ministry team has made it very clear that God is their all and all too. This cohesiveness creates an energy among us that makes us strong together. We have a willingness to serve and support each other. What an honor and privilege to work with a group of people who walk and serve in humbleness, honesty, integrity, and vulnerability.

It's never a straight and narrow road. Yet, the ministers take on the

Community Service: Opened the Canaan Family Life Center, a 501(c)(3) Human Services ministry serving hundreds annually.

Vision & Leadership: Cast a multi-year, purpose-driven macro-vision through 2025 with annual mission themes, the current theme being "Service." Partnered with the Barna Organization to assess and strengthen church health.

Stewardship & Structure: Advanced initiatives including electronic giving, independent audits, a new constitution, Bible-laws, policies, procedures, and a ministry operations manual.

Technology & Communication: Revamped the website multiple times, built a social media presence across Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and YouTube, and updated the church logo.

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challenge as sacrificial lambs, guided by Holy Spirit, to be accessible to our Church family. Just as lawyers, judges, police officers, and physicians take an oath to serve without judgment, we serve as your prayer partners, spiritual guidance counselors, cheerleaders, and the ones who believe in who you are.

John 13:34-35, where Jesus gives a "new commandment" to "love one another, just as I have loved you." That is our ministry mission as we serve Canaan. We love you.

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Facilities & Resources: Renovated the Fellowship Hall with a new sound system, purchased a bus and telephone system, and secured a McDonald's Grant to build a computer lab.

Clergy Development: Partnered with local seminaries to train future clergy and lay leaders. Our most recent intern, Minister Earl Roberts II, launched and now oversees the Ministry Engagement Team, connecting people, leaders, and ministries in powerful new ways.

Ministry Expansion: Launched and re-established ministries including Communications, Veterans Outreach, Prison, Marriage, Uganda Mission Project, Greeters, Tower of Hope, Sisters Returning Home, Chosen 300, Pennsylvania Keystone Baptist Association, Family & Friends Mentoring programs, Teen Worship at Mickey D's, Young Adult Praise, Fitness, and Domestic Violence ministries.

Prayer & Bible Study: Introduced church-wide daily devotions (Encounter with God, Discovery, Word for Today) and expanded Bible study opportunities across all ages and schedules. Strengthened communal prayer with Wednesday Noonday, Monday prayer, First Fridays, Sunday mornings, 4th Sunday Altar Prayer, and reopened the Prayer Room.

Staffing for Growth: Added a Director of Operations, a Director of Congregational Care, and a Director of Ministry Engagement.

Financial Security: Created the GEM Endowment Fund to sustain ministry for generations.

COVID-19 Response: Hosted testing clinics with the Black Doctor's Consortium and Mastery Charter Pickett, distributed vaccinations with Chestnut Hill Hospital, Lehigh Pharmacy, Walmart, and the Philadelphia Dept. of Health, and organized bi-monthly drive-throughs to serve and connect with the community. Distributed 4,290 food boxes (77 tons of food) and 299 ShopRite gift cards totaling nearly \$9,000. Transitioned all core spiritual formation—worship, evangelism, prayer, Bible study, ministry, fellowship, and giving—to hybrid platforms.

Worship Enhancement: Installed new audio, lighting, video screens, and streaming systems, broadcasting Canaan's services worldwide.

Property Development: With Mrs. Brennan's leadership, completed extensive renovations at 244, 302, and 304 School House Lane and 315 Winona Street. Current monthly rents for all four properties total \$11,130 (\$133,560 annually). With renovations, the five properties are valued at ~\$2.5 million, with over \$2 million in appreciation and \$2.25 million in equity, ensuring financial flexibility without leveraging church assets.

Capital Campaign: Completed a 7-year, \$2.25M+ campaign during the toughest global economy in 75 years. Results included restoring our historic sanctuary and bell tower, and expanding non-church real estate assets by purchasing 300 School House Lane.

Missions Giving: Faithfully tithed up to 10% of our annual budget to local, national, and international partners, including Alpha Care, Angel Tree, Canaan Family Life Center, Edward M. Steele School, Fishers of Men "Jesus Therapy" Mission, Germantown Coalition of Churches, John B. Kelly School, Lott Carey Foreign Mission Convention, Philadelphia Baptist Association, St. Jude Hospital, Taylor Made Opportunities, Uganda Mission Project, United Lutheran Seminary, United Negro College Fund, Urban Redevelopment Corporation, Whosoever Gospel Mission, Wissahickon Boys and Girls Club, and many others.

Through every season, God has poured out His favor on Canaan! From powerful worship and deep discipleship to bold outreach and faithful stewardship, we are living proof that "the Gem of Germantown" still shines bright. And this is only the beginning—greater works are yet ahead! With hearts full of gratitude and faith, we celebrate all God has done, and we step boldly into the future, declaring together: To God be the glory, great things He has done—and even greater things He will do!

Community Food Drive Event

During the month of October Canaan will host a Food Drive benefitting the Canaan Family Life Center. Your generous donations continuously help to provide groceries for families in need in our local communities.



Drop-off bins will be located in the Narthex, next to the main security desk, and outside of Classroom #1. Feel free to drop off donations whenever the church is open.

Items needed:

- Canned vegetables, beans and soup
- Rice, pasta, cereal
- Shelf-stable milk and juices
- Peanut butter & jelly
- Cooking oil & spices
- Canned tuna or salmon

Thank you, in advance, for your participation!



Angel Tree Christmas Project

The Prison Fellowship Angel Tree Project enables churches to foster stronger relationships between incarcerated parents and their children by supporting the families of those behind bars.

Every Christmas, Angel Tree mobilizes local churches and organizations to minister to hundreds of thousands of children by delivering a gift, the Gospel message, and a personal message of love on behalf of their mom or dad behind bars.

The Canaan Baptist Church Prison Ministry is accepting the names of children of incarcerated parents to participate in our 2025 Angel Tree Project.

The **deadline** for submitting the **children's names, ages, and gender** to Terry Carey, Angel Tree Coordinator, **(via the Church Office)** is **Sunday, October 26th**.

For questions or to submit names please contact the Church Office at 215-848-6311 or info@canaanbaptistchurch.org.



TRIBE OF ZEBULUN

Tribe Deacon: Michael Bryant

Tribe Leader: Margaret Langley

Tribe Minister: Reverend Linda Parker

Tribe Chaplain: Vacant

Tribe Meeting: Every 1st Saturday, 10:00 – 11:00am
September - June on Zoom 2

*Then Leah said, "God has endowed me with a good gift; finally my husband will acknowledge me as his wife, because I have borne him six sons." So she named him Zebulun. **Genesis 30:20***

Zebulun was the sixth son born to Leah, and the tenth and youngest son born to Jacob. The tribe of Zebulun was recorded in history as accomplishing an exceptional feat. During a struggle with Sisera, the tribe fought with desperate valor side-by-side with their brethren of the tribe of Naphtali, and drew down the special praise of the judge Deborah, who singled them out from the other tribes.

Canaan's Tribe of Zebulun continues to participate, along with other tribes, in providing for the care of others. We provide eyeglass frames to those in need, partnering with Pearle Vision Center and Walmart's distribution network. Another initiative in the works is donating needed personal supplies to nursing facility residents within the Germantown area.

Church Calendar

- 2nd Sunday - **Youth Sunday**
- 3rd Sunday - **Teen Outreach @ McDonalds**
- 4th Sunday - **Holy Communion**
- **Sunday School** - 8:15am every Sunday
- **Pastor's Bible Study** - Tuesdays 6:45pm (Zoom 1)
- **Saturday Morning Bible Study** - Saturdays 8:30am (Zoom 1)
- **Women's Bible Study** - Wednesdays 3:00 pm (Zoom 1)
- **Wednesday Bible Study** - Wednesdays 5:00pm (Zoom 2)
- **Monthly Women's Bible Study** - Last Wednesday of the month 10-11:30am - Classroom #3)
- **Mature Adults Bible Study** - Thursdays 10:30am (Lower Dining Room)
- **Noon Day Prayer** -
 - Tues/Thurs/Fri 12:00pm (In Person - Chapel)
 - Wed. 12:00pm (Virtual - Zoom 1)
 - Structured Prayer - Wks. 1, 2 & 4
 - Open Prayer - Wks. 3 & 5

Weekly Activities

- **Christian Legal Clinic** - 3rd Thursdays (by appt. only)
- **Exercise Class** - Tuesdays @ 11am / Wednesdays & Thursdays @ 7:15pm
- **12 Steps Recovery Program** - Wednesdays @ 7pm

Upcoming Events

- 10/4-5 - **Women's Retreat 2025**, The Desmond Hotel
- 10/12 9:15am - **Pastor's Anniversary Service**, Sanctuary

CONTACT US!

215-848-6311

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