

Broadneck Baptist Church Profile
1257 Hilltop Dr.
Annapolis, MD 21409
www.broadneckbaptistchurch.org

Church Affiliations:
Alliance of Baptists
American Baptist Churches USA
D.C. Baptist Convention

God calls us to meet hurt and fear of this world by joining others of faith to share God's hope and love for creation's healing and reconciliation.

Foundational to this ministry is seeking to open our own eyes and hearts to being beloved by God. How do we open our eyes and break free from everyday distractions or larger problems of life? At Broadneck Baptist Church, we seek to experience and deepen our relationship with God. Seekers and believers discover purpose, promise, hope, and help for daily living in developing a relationship with God through Jesus Christ. In doing so, we learn to listen to God and learn to love, overcoming the fear and pain that all people experience.

At Broadneck Baptist Church, we recognize that we are on this pilgrimage together. There is a commitment to the philosophy that tangible and loving works for our neighbors, introspective contemplation, and whole-hearted worship are the foundations for deepening fellowship with God and God's world. The congregation of Broadneck Baptist Church values a cooperative, collegial, mutual leadership that is inclusive of women and the laity. Everyone has gifts, talents, and insights that can help others on their journey, regardless of whether they are a formal member of Broadneck Baptist Church. We actively listen and encourage one another to participate in a variety of ways, recognizing that all our actions – big or small, intentional or accidental – affect those around us.

Five ministry groups coordinate our efforts: worship, spiritual formation, outreach/evangelism, helping services, and support services. The chairperson of each ministry group provides the basis for the church council. The Constitution and By-laws of Broadneck Baptist Church includes our detailed statement of faith, purpose, policy, and organizational structure. The activities of these groups reflect that we see everyone as a minister.

The community of Broadneck Baptist Church celebrates the presence of God's Spirit in our lives through dynamic intergenerational worship. All people and ages are invited to participate and lead creative praise. This is also a time for spiritual learning and introspection. We celebrate, struggle, and meditate during our worship services with songs, readings, and sermons informed by many cultures, times, and contexts. Various participants guide the worship services, personally investing their faith as well as their questions. We value teaching that is accessible, thoughtful, scripture-based, and informed by life. Our weekly ministries of Bible study, children's Wonderful Wednesday (involving music, drama, Bible stories, and crafts), meditative prayer, online blog discussions through our website, and our church choir are just the more tangible parts of this process. Summer outreach includes VBS/Music and Arts Camp and a multi church intergenerational mission trip to West Virginia to repair communities emotionally and spiritually by physically repairing homes and organizing a children's music and arts program.

Led by the Holy Spirit, participants in the Broadneck Baptist community learn and share God's love as revealed through the life and ministry of Jesus Christ. We provide an atmosphere of nurturing love to enhance each individual's

relationship with God and God's people. Who are God's people? The outcast, the mediator, the abandoned, the caring, the doubtful, the powerful, and the faithful – we are all God's people, as hard as it is to accept at times. Just as we struggle with the message of Jesus as seekers and believers, we realize that others fight their own battles of faith and action to follow the path of love, the greatest commandment. We expand our community of faith in order to bring hope to others through the message and the reality of God's existence and love. We know that this happens on a personal level and through works of love.

As part of God's call for outreach and evangelism, Broadneck Baptist Church recognizes the need and value of reaching out to the community as well as helping our faith family. Combining our efforts ecumenically, the helping ministry group directs our participation with My Brother's Pantry (Broadneck area churches' food pantry), Severna Park Assistance Neighborhood Network (SPANN), and HIV/AIDS Volunteer Enrichment Network (HAVEN). These programs provide direct assistance to our neighbors via gifts of food, transportation, and monetary support. Recently, the helping ministry group created an intergenerational project of raising funds and purchasing solar cookers to offer families in Zimbabwe and Darfur. Similar work is done joyfully within the church community, as part of our pastoral care and church support services. The participants in the Broadneck Baptist community illustrate the active engagement of the "do with me" type of ministries instead of just "do."

Broadneck Baptist Church is nestled in the Broadneck peninsula's waterfront community of Cape St. Claire, approximately eight miles east of Annapolis, the capital of Maryland. Surrounded by the waters of the Chesapeake

Bay, the peninsula provides residence and recreation for an economically and educationally diverse population. Government, military, education, contracting and service jobs provide employment in the Annapolis, Baltimore and Washington D.C. areas. Many educational opportunities exist in our immediate area, ranging from the five elementary schools to the local community college, as well as the two unique institutions in Annapolis: St John's College and the United States Naval Academy.

If current trends continue, Cape St. Claire and the surrounding communities will experience steady growth and transition bringing even more opportunities to reach out to our neighbors. While growth and transition are signs of a healthy and thriving community, they also are accompanied by challenges. These include the breakdown of the family, overburdened school system, increased crime and drug usage, the formation of teen gangs, a growing sense of spiritual hunger, and the need for true community. God calls us to action and provides us with all we need to act.

Broadneck Baptist Church is small in size and intimate in atmosphere. We have approximately 40 members and participants, most of who are deeply committed to being active ministers of the gospel of Jesus Christ. We realize that we can be a light in our world as we listen, learn, and work together. With dynamic energy and purpose, we believe that we can reach out to our neighbors, near and far, to help one another feel God's presence and love as we learn together on our life journey.

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