

Grace UPON Grace

America for Christ Offering 2023

Kodiak Baptist Mission

Located in Kodiak, Alaska, Kodiak Baptist Mission believes that the beauty surrounding us is a gift from God, and the best way to use it is to share it with our community and beyond.

Drawing upon our history and our consistent faith in Jesus Christ, Kodiak Baptist Mission seeks to be an example for our community and the world in the way that we love our neighbors through a holistic approach to education, as well as the dedication of time and resources to strengthen families.

From 1893 to today, Kodiak Baptist Mission has pioneered approaches to holistic education and domestic, rural missions right here in Kodiak. Through devastating fires and tightening state mandates, we have stayed firm in our faith and love of God.

Today, we have the best summer camps and after school programs in Kodiak. Our programs enable children to make positive choices and decisions, keep them safe and respectable, establish a spiritual foundation in their lives, and assist families to live, work, and grow together in Christ.

Heritage Farms and Ranch



As Heritage Farms grows, so does its population of farm animals. Children can spend time around our chickens, goats, ducks, cow, horses, mule, and beloved Willow—our barn cat. Seeing the differences between these farm animals, the products they create, and how they interact with both other animals and humans is an experience kids adore because you simply can't get it in a classroom.

Please give today! | www.abhms.org/afc

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FBC Jamaica Plain—Food Justice Program

We are a Christian community of many cultures, one faith! Unified in our diversity and strengthened by the Holy Spirit, we gather together in worship, witness and service to glorify God and follow the example of Jesus, the Christ's, inclusive love.

The First Baptist Church in Jamaica Plain is a multicultural, inter-generational, welcoming and affirming American Baptist congregation that has been sharing the Good News of Jesus since 1842. While our neighborhood has gone through multiple transitions over the years, this church continues to be a beacon of hope and light in our community. Despite the fire that burned our building in 2005, a deficit budget, and an unfinished church home, we have continued to be about the ministry to which God has called us. Two years ago, we began a non-profit, The Centre for Faith, Art & Justice, to serve as the outreach arm of our congregation. Through it we run a Food Justice Program and a Youth Open Mic and partner with other organizations doing the work of social justice.



Our congregation continues to be a place where we train pastors, support mission, reach out to the neighborhood, and strive to live the love we've known in Jesus. Our church's ministry is a fundamental reading of Matthew 25:35. Ministry grows out of the needs of God's people.

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Detroit Friendship House

Friendship House is a faith-based non-profit organization in Hamtramck, Michigan, under the umbrella of American Baptist Home Mission Societies. It serves as a compassionate ministry, strengthening families through community connections and offering help with basic human needs, such as food and clothing, and providing assistance in gaining the tools necessary to achieve self-sufficiency.

Nearly half of the population of Hamtramck lives under the national poverty line. That means one in two people risk going to bed hungry every night.

Brianna's story

Six-year-old Anthony lives with his mother and three siblings in Hamtramck, and just the other day, he told us he was hungry.

Anthony's family has always known poverty. His mother Brianna never knew her mother, who passed away when she was two years old. She spent her childhood being passed from grandmothers to aunts, always looking for a place to call home.

Now, Brianna has four children, her GED, nine months of classroom study at Everest Institute toward a medical assistant's certificate, and a job with Better Life Bags, a handbag company started by a woman in Hamtramck. She says, "It's been a long journey for me toward some sense of stability."



With the increase in prices of basic necessities, your help is needed more than ever! Please be generous in your donation to the 2023 America for Christ Offering so that by working together, we can help those in our community who are experiencing food insecurity while trying to make ends meet financially!

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JOYA Scholars

Since 2009, JOYA Scholars has inspired and prepared more than 100 junior high, high school, and college students from low-income families in Fullerton, California, to succeed through higher education. These students are primarily from Latinx and immigrant families residing in Fullerton's Garnet and Maple neighborhoods.

Through our College Readiness Program, our team addresses the issue of education access within marginalized communities. Junior high and high school students participate in mentoring, tutoring, our College Apps Academy, Service & Leadership Academy, and more. Meanwhile, their parents enroll in our Parent Academy.

In 2020-2021, nearly 100 students participated in 2,100 virtual hours of our College Readiness Program. Despite the pandemic, more students participated in our program that year than in any single previous year. Sixteen high school graduates and three college students earned more than \$26,000 in scholarships awarded by our partners.

JOYA SCHOLARS

Also, during the pandemic, several high school students attended two virtual student leadership trainings, and our alumni network expanded from 31 to 47 students. Our Parent Academy doubled from 15 to 30 participants, our 45 volunteers served more than 1,400 hours, and our team coordinated \$80,000 in direct relief to over 500 neighborhood families who experienced job, housing, and food insecurity.

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First Baptist Church, Painted Post, NY

The purpose of the Twin Tiers Baby Bank is to support economically disadvantaged families in keeping their babies healthy by providing a one-week supply of diapers (50) along with a container of wipes, a bottle of shampoo/baby wash, A&D type lotion, and miscellaneous other baby items, up to four times per year. The Baby Bank serves families and their children (up to age 42 months) in the Corning-Painted Post, New York area, with an estimated 1,090 unique individual children and adults being served in 2020.

The Twin Tiers Baby Bank has been operating free of charge for six years out of an office and storage area in the First Baptist Church of Painted Post. It is operated entirely by volunteers who order and stock supplies, pay bills, and staff the office for 15-20 hours per week. At first it was operated strictly as an outreach program of the church, but it grew so quickly—50 percent year-over-year in the first three years—that we saw the need to become a separate nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization. The growth of Twin Tiers Baby Bank is a testament to the increasing numbers and escalating needs of disadvantaged families in the area we serve. With your gracious support through the 2023 America for Christ Offering, we can, together, make the coming year a brighter one.



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First Baptist Comunidad Cristiana— Agape Youth Center, Yakima, WA

As one Agape fifth grader put it: “Agape has helped me with academics most of all. It has also helped me to become a better person. It has given me backpacks and produce. Agape has helped me to understand life in many ways and to appreciate what I have. My Agape counselors have taught me respect and to be myself. Agape has always been there for me and always will. They have always taught me to have faith in myself no matter what.”

The Agape Youth Center Summer Program is a free STEAM-based program for first through fifth graders sponsored by a non profit organization called Schools Out Washington. The program focuses on creatively teaching science, technology, engineering, arts, and math. Our vision is to encourage learning and growth in character, education, and physical health by providing a safe, caring, fun environment combined with high-quality teaching. We desire that our children grow into future leaders who bring positive impact to their communities.



Our program has certified teachers who bring the STEAM subjects to life, as well as fun games and water play; plus, a lunch/snack is provided!

To help support the Agape Youth Center, donate generously to the 2023 America for Christ Offering.

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Corporación Milagros del Amor–CorMA

CorMA is a faith-based project that arose from the initiative of brothers of the First Baptist Church of Caguas, Puerto Rico, which has a 120-year history of service to the community.

CorMA's mission for the past 30 years has been to enhance the quality of life in Caguas and neighboring counties through multiple programs and activities in areas such as health, education, housing, and recreation. Despite facing diverse challenges, the organization has helped the most vulnerable populations in the region by offering services such as case management, transportation, food, clothing, and housing.

Our commitment is to serve with love, following the model of Jesus, through our multidisciplinary team of professionals.

With your support through the 2023 America for Christ Offering, you too can be part of this vital ministry in Puerto Rico.



Corporación
**Milagros
del Amor**
El amor hace milagros

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Detroit Friendship House

Friendship House has been experiencing an influx of Ukrainian refugees needing food.

These refugees have been through unimaginable trauma, and we want to help welcome them to America as best we can.

Luckily, we have a regular volunteer who speaks Ukrainian and so we've been describing our tradition of sharing meals to our new guests and how they can participate in our time-honored tradition.



We've explained that through the compassion and kindness of our donors, Friendship House will be distributing traditional meals to our clients who cannot afford it. It enables them to be able to celebrate our custom of sharing gratitude with their friends and family.

Will you help us share our beloved custom with our clients including our new Ukrainian refugees?

Your donation today through 2023 America for Christ Offering will help our regular clients enjoy meals without the stress it adds to their already over-stretched budgets and helps our Ukrainian clients acclimate to their new surroundings, thereby creating a better future for all.

Make your donation today through the 2023 America for Christ offering!

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