



Equip Church | Academy | Care

From the Desk of Pastor Dr. Loretta Iannicelli
Sr. Pastor, President, CEO

SCRIPTURE: Ephesians 4:11-13 & Matthew 25:40

SNAPSHOT OF MINISTRIES

May you be blessed this year as you love and lead in Christ. Below is a snapshot of the ministries of Equip Church, Academy & Care. Please feel free to reach out to us at any time. We covet your prayers and would love to also hear all God is doing in and through you and your ministries.

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Equip Vision Statement:

A culture of authentic compassion and care to the point of need based upon Ephesians 4:11-12 & Matthew 25:40 so that the world will more easily find and know Jesus.

Equip Mission Statement:

Equip Care Ministries exists to bring a culture of hope, care, and Kingdom advancement to the point of need by providing diverse avenues of Spiritual Care so that many are encouraged, inspired and enabled for Spiritual resiliency, sustainability, and hope resulting in the world believing that Jesus is Lord and that God loves them.

Equip Core Values:

Organic-Leading of the Holy Spirit in all we do

Intentional- Utilizing wise counsel and strategic planning

Authentic- Being true to God, self and giftings

Simple- In our relationship with God vs religion

Excellence- Incorporating high-quality start to end

Compassion- Loving God & others to our best

5 Areas of Influence:

Church Leadership, Spiritual Care, Biblical Education, Community Enrichment and Crisis Intervention programs

EQUIP CHURCH-BASED MINISTRIES

In formation, Equip Church was formed as a charitable, religious, and educational non-profit. We implement sacerdotal functions as we rethink what church looks like and what this means to us. Simple, yet effective, Equip's methodology and philosophy for our pursuit of Biblical church was birthed by Equip with simple systems in mind that have been proven to work, founded in love and Biblical precedent similar to the founding of the early Church. Acts 2:42-47 focuses upon the major pillars of the early Church which is our desire for today: Preaching and Teaching the Word, fellowship, prayer, and communion – together in unity, to the benefit of the common good. Today, and through God's grace, Equip Church continues with our charge to bring the proclamation of Biblical truths through expanded church and organizational leadership, in worship, preaching, prayer, study of the Word of God with Biblical leadership formation, a formal Ordination program, volunteer training, discipleship, and other religious services.

Overall, Equip's Biblical enrichment efforts remain focused upon Church Worship Services, Administration of Church Organization, Church Biblical Leadership with Organizational Stability, Discipleship, Spiritual Growth, and other Spiritual Care Ministries.

Equip Church Worship Services

Our Services have been updated on our website to reflect new times and locations regularly.

Equip Church has been able to join together in worship and praise of God in Word, singing and other forms of worship celebration with persons, organizations, and the greater public at large as we continue our founding vision to provide excellence in our religious programming and content toward bringing sustainable religious programs so that the world will more easily find and know Jesus. Consistent with our discerned commission as a religious, charitable, educational organization, we perform charitable work organized exclusively for 501(c)(3) religious non-profit purposes. Our focus is upon operational excellence through the God-given resources and areas for ministry He has called us to locally, regionally and nationally, as inspired and upheld by Equip Church, charged with a U.S. Missions-focused reach. This delineates us from many other church organizations that invest highly in overseas missions outside the United States. Here, we operate as a U.S. based stateside church with our predominate goal for reaching stateside-based adherents for the cause of Christ. Likewise, we seek partnerships within our communities and among varying collaborative organizations to further advance our goals.

Equip Church believes in the value of uniting in significant times of worship and Biblical engagement. We have dedicated pastors studied in worship arts and Biblical teaching and have fostered ongoing collaborations with others just as qualified as we raise up others to do likewise. Together, we are part of the greater and universal worldwide Church of Jesus Christ, and we have/will continue to provide Spiritual support as prescribed and instructed in agreement with the Scripture. Overall, it is the responsibility for the Equip Leadership who are the qualified, trained, and prepared representatives of God who allow for readily available times and opportunity to meet the many Biblical and Spiritual needs of our members and greater public through many forms of worship gatherings including but not limited to times to partake in Holy Communion, Water Baptism services, baby dedications, the administration of marriage ceremonies, and/or wedding pre-marriage preparation, as well as conducting funerals, memorials, or other aspects for gathering and administration of Sacerdotal functions that strengthen the Church.

Church Biblical Leadership in Organizational Stability

At Equip Church, we believe Church leadership and organizational stability is a foundational component that ensures success as a religious leader over time. Why we place a high focus and investment in this area today rests upon our desire to continue to provide sound worship and Biblical engagement that fosters Godly Christian living which ensures a legacy mandate that can be passed onto religious leaders of tomorrow. Positively aligning ourselves for healthy, sustainable, God-inspired organizational leadership in structure is a non-negotiable for the effective living out of our Commissions in Christian ministry. The Equip leadership team, the Equip credentialed pastors, volunteers and other Equip-designated leaders are those who have joined together to ensure our church, vision, mission, and values produce effective ways to worship and engage in our faith while fostering sound organizational leaders who can provide positive and well-implemented outcomes to those we serve. Our church leadership structure is a primary focus that enables us to remain effective in all we do as the backbone for successful mobilization to all aspects of worship, church culture, and ministry initiatives. What church leadership drives ultimately are the many positive outcomes that are realized as a result of leading with order and decency (1 Corinthians 14:40) as we share the love we hold for God and others ministered thoroughly and responsibly under the watchful directives of sound leadership principles. Sound leadership can be tangibly realized as a result for staying true to many basic, sound and humble religious and leadership principles grounded in Scripture. Equip leadership commits to not being swayed or deviated into trends that come and go, glitzy or flashy programs, or others' ideals for ministry. Year to year, we remain focused ensuring our leadership is consistent with our God-led mission, vision and values which best embrace our unique church culture. We do so with a continual focus and priority upon people versus programs. The success of our leadership team in keeping and seeking God first is primary across all areas of leadership. Our submission to the Holy Scriptures drives leadership in all aspects of faith and conduct has proven to be a necessary asset in all aspects of day-to-day church operations (Matthew 6:33).

Administration of Church Organization

Equip has/will continue to uphold the charge to conduct a locally, regionally, and nationally vibrant Church organization by the direction of the Lord Jesus Christ and under the leadership of the Holy Spirit to engage in church practices with faith and confidence so that the world will more easily find and know Jesus in accordance with all the provisions as set forth in the Bible, and overseen by our governing Ecclesiastical leadership team. The Senior Pastor works to articulate Spiritual guidance and operations, while our many facets to the organizational governing body provide oversight, fiscal responsibility, and accountability to all.

Discipleship, Spiritual Growth and Development

At Equip Church, both corporate and individual discipleship is a primary goal. The why we do what we do behind a need for consistent and ongoing Spiritual formation and discipleship rests with knowing that we are called to build up the body of believers unto maturity as stated as part of our founding Scripture (Eph 4:13). We believe everyone should have the opportunity to mature in knowing intrinsically who they are in Christ and to have opportunities to participate in evidenced works by which they serve God as their act of worship by giving of their time and talents through their God-given areas of gifting. Ephesians 4:12-13 outlines, "Their (the apostles', prophets', evangelists', pastors' and teachers') responsibility is to equip God's people to do his work and build up the church, the body of Christ. This will continue until we all come to such unity in our faith and knowledge of God's Son that we will be mature in the Lord, measuring up to the full and complete standard of Christ." [Emphasis is ours]. At Equip, we place the very high value on the need for discipleship in the form of ongoing leadership formation and Spiritual growth and development made available to all, with the goal for ongoing Spiritual maturity and being mindful for enhancing ways toward the ongoing building for a continued legacy of leaders for tomorrow available as outlined in Ephesians 4:12-13. Equip leadership holds a solid, yet simple organizational structure, systems, and vision for developing ongoing maturity in Spiritual growth and development which exists to ensure kingdom advancement of the cause for Christ based upon Ephesians 4:11-16 so that the world will more easily find and know Jesus.

Leader Development & Discipleship

We believe everyone should have the opportunity to mature in knowing intrinsically who they are in Christ and to have opportunities to participate in evidenced works by which they serve God as their act of worship by giving of their time, talent, and other resources through their God-given areas of gifting. At Equip Church, individual attention to discipleship is vitally important, especially for those new to the faith.

Equip Preaching/Teaching Team

At Equip Church, we provide preaching sermons and teaching opportunities that allow us to hold the full context of the Word of God in highest esteem as our rule and standard for life and conduct. We preach exegetically, ideal for the making of disciples, and also topically, as we deliver the simple truth of God's message. The importance of holding, proclaiming, and teaching the Word of God and Scriptures accurately builds a great growth and discipleship opportunity to advance in knowing God, self and others. Our efforts to place a high focus upon the Word of God is a matter of priority as we preach the "whole counsel of God" (Acts 20:27) that benefit corporate discipleship.

Equip Marketing & Media

Equip has launched creative and diverse opportunities in strategic planning in marketing, communications, and with Equip branding in new ways, including filming, pro-editing, and guidance on ways to enhance our preaching/teaching for in person and in online formats. Our goal is to continue to help the leaders and volunteers feel comfortable navigating and using these forums with excellence. We have created a FB page and YouTube channel, and forums for daily, weekly, monthly and quarterly communications with visibility of our programs to persons of interest through creative and insightful devotions, teachings, videos, and other contents to meet the need of those we serve. We have expanded our teaching team, added expanded newsletters, the Equip Care Notes, devotionals and blogs for easy and convenient access to all. We have a goal to carefully and mindfully assess meeting practical needs relevant to the times for worship, Spiritual care, and discipleship. We publish free Biblical resources and more recently a Resurrection Devotional series on the Penitential Psalms, Psalm 22 and the Seven Sayings of Christ from the Cross on our website.

Equip Media Ministry

Equip sermons and teachings in varying forms allow for us to have a better presence to those we love and serve. Samples of our online Media listings can be found at <https://www.equipcareministries.org/media> Or via <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC0Z3jGCm-l7JexlrAN5LAJQ>.

Community Small Group Development

At Equip Church, we realize that personal discipleship produces authenticity, accountability, and the intimacy as persons come together and share life in smaller group settings which is our desired form to best manage and maximize personalized care. House to house gatherings and small groups have proven extraordinarily successful and beneficial as an opportunity for people to have a safe and trusted context to discuss Scripture, ask questions, and wrestle with their responses. Firstly, as part of the larger context to bigger gatherings, we have found that lasting and genuine care for one another is not produced by simply sitting in pews, hearing a teach down lecture or sermon that limits deeper intimacy, interaction or engagement. We found that care in circles, amidst a comfortable, living room or other smaller setting is the first point of entry many more so desire to experience as they consider a possible first-time or reentry into church-based faith or activity. These smaller settings are ideal onramps into caring community groups and prove necessary for persons who carry negative impressions of what church may signify to them.

Equip Internship Program

Equip Church, Academy and Care, along with our Ordination Program, help students of the Bible formulate a path to advance their volunteerism and/or their potential Call to ministry. Many times developing sound leadership skills and a path to success is more than book knowledge, but needs flushed out through supervision and internship opportunities offered via the local church to advance one's life calling in Christ toward Ministerial Leadership. Equip offers individual and group collaboration as well as collaboration with our local Bible schools, colleges and seminaries.

Familial, Student & Children's Support

At Equip Church, the family component and dynamics faced by children, students and adult family members today are daunting and a primary goal to Equip Church as part of our worship services and sacerdotal functions. Many times familial need far surpasses the ability to engage all aspects of required attention. With that, age-appropriate ministry lessons specific to organized children's and teens' age-appropriate Biblical programming and support is key. The Biblical importance of the family unit as a whole is a priority for us. When kids suffer, parents suffer alongside. When parents are in crisis, kids feel and realize the fallout of those affects. There are numerous Bible verses (Exodus 20:12, Psalm 127:3-5, Colossians 3:20, Ephesians 6:1-2) about family that provide relevant Biblical perspectives on families, such as love, difficult relationships, family values, raising children, facing loss and death, and more. Equip Church believes that God created humans to live as a family unit, and that He knew that there would be many challenges to family dynamics and relationships.

Teen & Children's Services

Equip Church desires to make the greatest difference in offering vital and timely programs relevant to familial and age-appropriate need. In an effort to minister applicably to the whole family unit, what we provide past expected worship services includes not only the guidance provided through the Scriptures in wisdom for every situation, but ongoing encouragement and inspiration for parenting, sibling dynamics, and extended family relationships that foster consistency that reminds families of how much God loves them.

Of specific concern remains the lack of pediatric-based behavioral health services available for referral across our communities for children in crisis. Many are seeing an increase for the need of newly formulated Pastoral/Spiritual Care services as a direct spike from the many effects of school closures, and other lifestyle changes as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic and its aftermath to usual family, school and learning models available to children. Equip leans upon a solid referral network for additional support as needed.

Family and/or 1:1 Pastoral Care Visitation

Here, Equip Church has been available to sit on diverse teams such as the Department of Public Health's continuum program which bridges gaps by request as we serve alongside and as part of the familial support teams designed to offer continuum services to the family members we serve. Ongoing referrals to the Southern Middlesex Opportunity Council, Inc. a service provided to support family need in food, housing, and other assistance programs have been on the rise.

Weddings, Funerals, Other Services

Equip Church invites families to participate in timely and momentous life milestones as we gather to celebrate and worship together. Some milestones may include familial celebrations such as baby dedications, weddings, graduations, or other life events including celebrations of life as we are prepared to conduct funerals, memorials, or timely first Communion preparation, or decision for Water Baptism celebrations.

Humanitarian Efforts

By way of continuity and for those not readily available to serve in-person, many can continue to support Equip Church's impact in local Humanitarian efforts through giving in diverse ways that unites in helping others less fortunate, which can engage families, students and children through the act of giving financially. Some of our consistently highlighted and continual humanitarian drives include Equip Church's Gift-a-Meal Card for the homeless, Socks for Seniors, and Hats for the Homeless to name a few as our way to keep all focused upon serving and giving past ourselves near and far.

Ministerial Ordination Program

Equip Church hosts a formal Ordination program and ministerial licensing track as part of our desire to enhance ongoing Biblical formation of pastors and leaders called to Commissioned, Community, Licensed or Ordained ministry. Since founding, five of our seven organizational leaders have completed their advanced Biblical education at the approved degree levels to receive credentials for their Calls to Ministry as part of our Ordination program. Many other persons of interest in whom we mentor are prayerfully discerning their Calls to Ministry as well.

Women's Ministries

The women's ministry of Equip Church holds a lifelong dedication to walking with, supporting, and advancing positive outcomes for women. The basis of why Equip Church holds such a strong focus on issues that women face is that we know women hold a vast impact across vital areas of life, family, in the workplace, and the Church. Firstly, Jesus himself was brought into the world by a strong woman (Matthew 1:21) and in Scripture we see that women are charged with providing wisdom, counsel, direction and guidance to other women as ministerial leaders. (Exodus 15:20, Judges 4 and 5, (2 Kings 22:14–20; 2 Chronicles 34:22–28, Acts 9:36, Philippians 4:2,3, Romans 16:1-4, 7). There are many Bible verses about women that show their strength, leadership, compassion and fortitude. Second, women in leadership, whether in ministerial settings or across all walks of life, have faced challenges that differ from men. Many women as leaders, mothers, and faith-filled forces have found an affinity in connecting with other women to gain inspiration and support.

Prayer Ministry

The Equip once monthly prayer/worship gatherings continue to be a great avenue for women in fellowship. Equip also offers a daily presence in prayer support with ministry on the Equip Women's Open House Social prayer page now with over 400+ prayer partners convening daily in prayer and through brief Bible devotionals . Continued National and International collaboration grows as we bring the Gospel of Jesus Christ to all the World. Our weekly corporate prayer continues with strategic prayer points for our church all while personal prayer remains available 1:1 or at other group gatherings.

EQUIP ACADEMY-A CHESAPEAKE BIBLE INSTITUTE, Boston MA

Over our past startup years, **Equip Academy**, as a ministry by extension of Equip Church, has enabled the equipping of tomorrow's leaders through consistent academic advising in Spiritual and leadership formation, along with high-quality Biblical education. We provide learning opportunities to busy ministers and leaders in training with high-quality, convenient, accessible and affordable Bible instruction, via enhanced learning through academic supervision and 1:1 internships. We provide in-class and online academic alternatives and foster the concept of Schools of Ministry based within local church settings. Today, through the grace of God, Equip Academy has directly assisted and been involved in the Biblical and Spiritual formation of over 85 active enrolled students of the Bible, as they progress through various accredited degree programs including the diploma of ministry, associate, bachelor, master or doctorate degrees in advanced Biblical education. Our

efforts in planting a Bible institute have led to ongoing enrichment and a deeper learning for many of the Bible truths we hold dear.

Equip Academy Chesapeake Bible Institute – Boston

Open enrollments continue for students is open at Equip Academy – The Chesapeake Bible Institute of Boston for Christian higher Biblical Education.

Administration of Equip Academy Bible Institute

At Equip, why we feel the need for providing Biblical education is of vital importance is because we are both Called and Commissioned with a mandate to offer foundational Biblical education and religious programming across all aspects of Equip’s ministries that aid in the propelling of the teaching of our Christian faith. Our ability to advance and enrich others as qualified representatives of the faith benefits all of our religious, charitable, educational initiatives. Equip has/will continue to foster bringing the education of the Word of God to all through Biblical study that empowers living a Godly, Christian lifestyle. Additionally, we hold to the belief that to foster responsibly and accountability in pastoral leadership, the need exists to teach and train toward fostering a legacy of ongoing ministerial leaders. Amidst today’s challenging and compelling worldviews, our leadership formulated a vision that effectively trains and empowers laborers of the Christian faith.

FREE OFFER - Self-Care Management in Turbulent Times Course: TYC-112a/112/512/712

As a response and with intent of being a present help, Equip has created, published and made available our self-paced online 3-credit college course FREE of charge to any of interest. This course, “Self-Care Management During Turbulent Times” is currently being offered through Chesapeake Bible College and Seminary to help all gain the concepts of Biblical Self Care Management. Sign to try our FREE OFFER Self Care 3 Credit College Course: <https://chesapeakebiblecollege.com/tyc-112-course-offer/>

CBI-Boston Admissions, Academic Development, & Teaching Teams

Our Equip Academy admissions team is open for qualified persons to serve with us to help those seeking to gain Biblical education. We welcome inquiries on how you can be a part of any one of our teams to help others advance in the Word of God. Teams include administration, Spiritual advising, admissions, academic development media and creative arts, and teaching/preaching with internships evaluated on a case by case basis.

U.S. Mission Trips – CBCS Collaborative

In conjunction with American Evangelistic Association (Melbourne FLA) , Chesapeake Bible College & Seminary (CBCS Greensboro MD), and others, Equip offers Stateside missions trips to assist the Registrar’s office of CBCS with the restructuring of their official offices, recently relocated from Ridgely Maryland to Greensboro Maryland.

EQUIP CARE MINISTRIES

Administration of US Missions Programs

Over these past startup years in organizational formation, **Equip Care**, as a ministry by extension of Equip Church, has advanced creative and innovative ways to bring Spiritual care to many in need in practical ways. Equip has provided one-to-one, small group and large group care settings that lend to positive life transformation across the body of believers and to the public at large. Equip offers unique ways and to

support those in need through grief, and self-care initiative to name a few. Through our Community Chaplaincy care, we have provided support to first responders via critical incident stress management peer groups, fostered pastor-to-pastor support groups, provided relevant and timely crisis trainings, brochures, and self-care management course materials, and supported and participated in many local town and city-wide feeding and humanitarian programs. Equip has provided thousands with free pastoral care consults, served in secured, first-response, nursing or hospital and community settings. We provide Spiritual visitations to many challenged through crisis.

Pastoral Care Visits

Equip's faith-based compassion care is designed with a holistic approach including a Spiritual approach to your Spirit, soul, and body need. Just as physicians, clinicians, and practitioners across the medical industry are best suited for people seeking traditional medical and emotional healthcare, we offer the faith-based Pastoral Care that tends to shaping one's Spiritual life journey with God from the faith-based Christian perspective. If you are seeking support on spiritual issues, exploring one's Call, or seeking advice or wisdom on spiritual disciplines that leads one deeper into connecting with God, our Biblical Pastoral care services can be a great option for you. Equip's Spiritual care provides confidential Spiritual guidance and prayer support. Equip does not provide medicine-based care by providers holding any specialized or formal training that would address any medical, emotional, or clinically-based issue. If you are currently seeking evidence-based, emergency, medical or emotional care, our service is not an option for you. On these matters, we recommend your seeking a local medical, clinical, or counseling service of choice to better serve your need for specialized care that is beyond our traditional and Biblically-based practice of Christian Pastoral Care.

Legacy Partnership Program

Equip's Legacy Partnership Program is an outreach program to initiate collaboration and assistance as part of a united journey with other organizations. We created this program to ask others to join with us in partnership and an aid to us as a local, regional, and national U.S. Missions organization of choice. Our desire is to enhance our prayer circle with coveted prayers and support as we provide Equip's mission, vision, and core values to other liked-minded affiliates for ongoing advancement toward empowering, strategic development among all as stewards by God.

Equip's Financial Support to other US Missions Organizations

Equip over time has also placed a strong emphasis upon financially donating to other US Missions organizations through our corporate yearend giving.

CISM/ Fire / First Response

Equip continues providing Fire Chaplaincy Spiritual care on-call for the Boston Fire Department's Critical Incident Stress Management team under the direction of supervising Fire Lieutenants.

Peer Support in Pastor-Pastor Care

Equip continues providing Spiritual coaching availability along with faith-based trainings, including committee and retreat support as needed.

Grieving with Hope

This once weekly Bible Study series has never faltered and has been a staple to many. We cycle continuously through various coursework from topics on Spiritual grieving and faith-based studies on burnout and time management, and other real, relevant, and relationship topics. This program continues to run as a community drop-in support group for people facing loss, hardship, disappointment and grief.

Equip Blog

Our Equip Blog is published once monthly on our Church website and via social media entitled “The Travel Log.” This blog focuses upon the evangelistic outreaches and encounters from our Equip evangelistic team.

Resurrection Devotional Series

Our Equip Resurrection Devo series remains a great online resource being provided across our prayer networks and has been published as a Spiritual resource on the Penitential Psalms, Psalm 22 and the 7 Sayings of Jesus from the Cross.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT US:

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