

Series: Dreams of Hope: A Journey of Faith and Justice
Unity and Brotherhood

Ways we can promote unity in our community and bring people together is organizing events and community service projects, cultural celebrations and neighborhood gatherings. That is what my congregation is trying to do when we try to bring communities together. The church hosts Homelessness Prevention Roundtable meetings on the last Friday of each month to bring communities together to help the homeless that live on the streets of Chicago, Detroit, Atlanta, Hattiesburg, Brooklyn, Dubuque and Cleveland. The church has hosted monthly youth seminars since 2015 to help bring communities together to help the youth in Chicago, Detroit and Atlanta. The church implemented the Celebrate Recovery meetings to help bring the community together in Chicago and Detroit To help residents dealing with hurts, habits and hangups known as mental health, addictions, substance abuse, financial recovery and anger. We started hosting weekly Bingo fundraisers to raise money for the Emergency Assistance Program, Credit Repair Program, Free Childcare Program, Free Expungement Program, After school programs and Women Christian Support Group. Before I started the congregation in Chicago, I started the personal grassroots project called Pastor Hobson Homelessness Initiative in 2010-2014. I created the America Homelessness Coalition in Dubuque as a personal grassroots project in 2014-2017 to help the homeless in Dubuque, Iowa.

The church supported local organizations and initiatives in Maryland, Illinois, Michigan, Ohio, New York, Texas, South Carolina, Pennsylvania and Iowa. The church was an active donor to Pacific Garden Mission, Olive Branch Mission, A Little Bit of Heaven Shelter, Detroit Rescue Mission Ministries, The City Mission, Dallas Life Mission, Austin Street Center, Olive Gospel Mission, Philly House, Hub of Hope, Children International, Cancer Awareness and Save the Children.

“How good and pleasant it is when God people live together in unity?”-Psalm 133:1

That is why I gave previous sermons on how we need to do what Jesus did to recruit our twelve disciples to provide unity and brotherhood in our community. When we recruit our twelve disciples we can transform these sinners and idolatry in our community to Christians and disciples. Only way we can end violence in Chicago is by providing more unity in communities, such as more block parties, events and community service projects. There needs to be more unity on southside of Chicago to end gun and gang violence. It needs more youth centers on southside of Chicago like what Progressive Beulah Pentecostal Church is doing to open a new youth center in the Englewood area.

This verse highlights the beauty and joy that comes from people living in harmony and unity. Unity among Christians and disciples is pleasing to God. When people come together in peace and cooperation, it creates a positive and blessed environment. It needs to be brotherhood at homeless shelters because it is the time I spend in and out of homeless shelters in the past and homeless men act like haters and sinners. For example, it was people at Pacific Garden Mission that used to hate me because I am focused on getting my life back together and not like them that depend on the government and free services known as free handouts. When homeless people expect too many free handouts, they are all about mammon and tax collectors. What is wrong with our young people in this nation today is not believing in hard work to get ahead. We need to pay attention to what other people are saying without interrupting. Address

disagreements with a calm and open mindset seeking solutions that are fair to everyone involved. Make an effort to include everyone and respect different viewpoints and backgrounds. Demonstrate peaceful behavior in your actions and interaction with others. Promote peace through education and by advocating for peaceful resolutions to conflicts.

Why do communities need unity?

- Achieve more as a group
- Build strong relationships
- promote peace
- Encourage cooperation
- Create supportive environment where people feel valued
- Happiness and fulfillment
- Sustainable

As Christians and disciples, we need unity and try to live in harmony with others. We can experience greatness and pleasantness. Unity can lead to joyful life.

"Make every effort to keep the unity of the spirit through the bond of peace."-Ephesians 4:3

This verse encourages believers to strive to maintain unity within the community of Faith. It emphasizes the importance of peace and cooperation, urging others to work diligently to preserve harmony, through guidance of the Holy Spirit. The verse highlights that unity is not just a natural state but something that requires effort and commitment to achieve and sustain.

- Practice forgiveness
- communicate open and honest
- Show empathy and understanding
- Collaborate and Cooperate
- pray for unity

How to spiritually provide brotherly love?

Connect with a higher power and cultivate inner peace. Explore teachings on love, compassion, and service. Learn from those who embody brotherly love. Spend quality time with loved ones. Nurture relationships with family and friends. Connect with others who share your values. Engage in acts of reconciliation. Mend broken relationships and forgive past hurts. Also, I want to tell a true story that law enforcement in Baltimore is not friendly because they are all about trying to chew people's heads off and act disrespectful to people. Those people like that do not need to be any law enforcement officer working with the public. I was told by professionals and individuals that I need to keep the church headquartered in Michigan. Members say they do not mind traveling this way to attend services as loyal members. The church Bylaws and Rules Committee will move the church east campus to Washington, DC that is an hour from Baltimore on Greyhound, Amtrak and Megabus. As Bishop and Senior Pastor of the church, I decided to go along with that because it will be in the nation Capitol. As a Chicago native, Chicago Police Officers and law enforcement are more friendly than here in Baltimore. It is like law enforcement officers

and police officers walk around with unfriendly attitudes and unfriendliness. That is 100% fact. First lady Jennifer and I will just live here in Baltimore when she comes from California and open the east campus for the church in Washington, DC. I mention this because it seems like there is no unity and brotherhood in Baltimore. First lady and I say we will stay to ourselves and not try to meet anyone here in Baltimore. We rather be on the road in Washington, DC to do church operations and community outreach out there in the nation capital.