

Praising God Through Worship and Music

Worship is at the heart of Methodism. John Wesley believed that through worship God conveys

grace to us and through that grace we are transformed. Each week we gather for worship to be transformed by God's grace. Services include traditional worship in the Sanctuary and contemporary/praise worship in the Family Life Center. Special seasonal services occur throughout the year but especially during Advent, Christmas and Lent.





The Music and Fine Arts Ministry is a multigenerational, multi-faceted ministry. The Music and Fine Arts Ministry consists of vocal ensembles, as well as instrumental ensembles. The visual arts are also represented by projects of the Craft Group, special altar displays, and classes in various artistic techniques such as the use of watercolors.



Scope of Ministries

Ministry is advanced in many ways. This Scope of Ministry describes some of our church activities in ministry. Each ministry category includes a proportionate share of staff and volunteers, with time allocated for ministry involvement and where leadership occurs.



Teaching and Equipping Believers for Effective Service and Ministry







Our goal is to help people of all ages find themselves in God's redemptive story by studying God's Word and discovering how their gifts and talents can be used to build up God's kingdom and love and serve others. We offer many small groups and Bible classes where people can find community, fellowship, learning, and service opportunities. Emphasis will continue to be on connecting new visitors, members, and families to the church through Discipleship Pathways, parenting classes, and age-appropriate lessons and discipleship-forming experiences for youth, and fellowship opportunities

Grateful Praise

In gratitude, we enter a season of thanksgiving and stewardship in the life of Manchaca UMC. We invite you to join us as we commit our joy, our hearts, our discipleship, to the ministry of making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. Please take some time to read the information provided in this flyer and celebrate the ministries we share in Christ here in this church and in our connection with United Methodists around the world. Pray for our church. Pray for the financial support of its ministries. And then, we ask you to be ready to commit to a financial pledge or estimate of giving for the calendar year 2024.

A hymn that helps me celebrate the ministries we share ends with the refrain, "Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise." The hymn is entitled "For the Beauty of the Earth.' I remember my mother teaching our family this hymn as an addition to the table grace we shared on special occasions. When we gathered for family meals at Thanksgiving, Anabel would sit at the piano and play her favorite hymns as her soprano voice filled the house. She invited us all, as we were comfortable, to join in the singing. For those who did not have the words in front of us, we struggled through the verses. Mom would stop and speak life into the words and then sing them again. By the time we came to the refrain after each verse, we were all in sync ... Our Hymn of Grateful Praise.

"For the beauty of the earth, for the glory of the skies,

for the love which from our birth over and around us lies;

Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise."

As you are prompted in the Holy Spirit, and as you remember and give thanks for the divine love of God we experience in Jesus Christ, join the singing this season. Join the vision. Join in the giving to support and transform our community and our ministry.

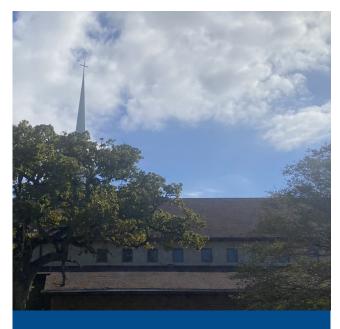
Everybody Give... Thanks!

Pastor Paul, Senior Pastor

Our Scope of **Ministries**

"All shall give as they are able, according to the blessing of the Lord your God that he has given you."

Deuteronomy 16:17



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Mission and Outreach Reflecting God's Love

Our church touches the community through our mission activities. This spring, our church also joined with other Methodist churches and Habitat for Humanity to build a home for a family in need. Our Food Pantry and Blessing Box have provided essential support for families in our area. We help provide Christmas gifts for needy children, feed children through our backpack ministry for







Menchaca Elementary, support students experiencing homelessness at Akins High School, prepare manna bags for the unhoused, and provide financial support to our missionaries in Costa Rica and on the border with Mexico. The youth and families of the church live out their faith through hands-on mission trips and projects near and far.

MUMC is a part of the Manchaca community every day. The pavilion offers the community the opportunity for fellowship through sports. Our Child Development Center pro-

vides a safe learning environment for young children. We provide access to mental health resources. Through the annual Pumpkin Patch, Fall Festival, and Christmas events, we welcome visitors to enjoy the season with us.

Direct Support for Ministries

Groups such as GriefShare, Craft Group, Boomers Exercise, Prayer Shawl Ministry, Women of the Word, and the United Methodist Men invite our community to connect through shared interests, needs, or desire to serve. Our Youth groups for tweens (FISH) and middle and high school students (UMYF) provide a safe, nurturing community for building character and developing an authentic faith that continues after childhood and adolescence. Even our youngest disciples can live out the call to love through our Families in Mission ministry.





Daily Ministry Support

Our church office is the hub where our church staff and volunteers revolve around in their daily individual ministry work preparation. Stocked with machines and supplies, the office – both in person and virtually – provides the space where the staff and volunteers can prepare the materials to support the congregation and its ministries. Written communications include worship bulletins, newsletters, signs, forms, mailings, and class materials.

Church attendance records, membership information, and prayer chain requests are input electronically. Electronic communications led by



staff include the creation of weekly informational slides to display on the hospitality area TV and updates to our church website. Weekly emails to our congregation through Constant Contact cover important announcements and reminders about our ministries. The office coordinates volunteers to assist with phones, food pantry, attendance help, and correspondence folding/mailing. There is even a volunteer to assist with straightening the sanctuary each week, so that our worship space is welcoming.

Places for People and Ministry

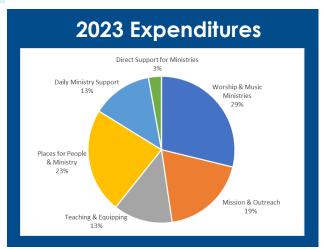
A clean, safe, and well-functioning church facility is vital to providing a welcoming environment for all and to fulfill the church's many programs and missions effectively. Manchaca UMC is a large campus that provides spaces for meaningful and inspiring worship experiences, Christian education for all ages, fellowship opportunities, and a wide variety of



community outreach and mission work. Maintenance requires long-term commitment and crucial financial support for the day-to-day operations that enable us to accomplish such meaningful activities and work. Those operations include many important aspects such as utilities, supplies, custodial support, equipment and facility repair, upkeep of the grounds, and insurance, to name a few. Financial support for our capital improvements, renovations, and debt retirement is also an essential part of our commitment to keeping the church complex updated and accommodating. We strive to be good stewards of what God has provided and the work entrusted to us in our world each year.

Generosity and Financial Gifts Create Ministry

This description is not intended to replace the tools used by our Finance Team. If you would like to see a detailed line-item statement of how ministry funds are used, contact the church office.



Everyday Expressions of Generosity

Your actions allow others to experience God's love through you. Look for ways to express your faith.

- Say "yes" to volunteer roles that make ministry happen
- Assist older adults with unmet life needs
- Serve as a youth leader or chaperone
- Teach or join a study group or Sunday class
- Participate in intentional prayer efforts
- Ask neighbors to attend church with you
- Greet and welcome people on Sundays