

# Faith in Action

## Ministry Budget Goals 2008

### Mission Bend United Methodist Church

#### A Community Church



Thank you for your generous spirit and your passion for serving others. It is because of your prayers, presence, gifts, service, and faithfulness that the body of Christ here at Mission Bend United Methodist Church is able to make disciples for Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

Mission Bend United Methodist Church is a *Rainbow of Hope* to the greater Mission Bend community. God has blessed us with a dynamic and growing church attracting a diversity of persons with various cultural and ethnic backgrounds to

its membership through its gracious hospitality, passionate worship, and faith forming relationships. We started over twenty-five years ago to reach the people of this community with the message of Christ's hope and love. Today we are a vibrant, exciting place that is touching and changing lives of children, youth, and adults

*"We started over twenty-five years ago to reach the people of this community with the message of Christ's hope and love."*

everyday. Our singular goal is to bring people into a growing relationship with Jesus Christ, build them up as His disciples, and send them out into the world to love God and neighbor in all things.

Our church is more than a Sunday only church. Drive by Mission Bend almost anytime, and you will see a church that is alive with activity! The information provided on the following pages is intended to acquaint you with the ministerial efforts of our church, the benefits they bring to our community, and the financial costs associated with providing them.

It is our hope that as you read these pages, you will gain a greater knowledge of your church family's needs and better understand our request for your financial help. In order to fund the missions and ministry of the church, the finance committee of the church has adopted a working budget of \$988,292 for the calendar year 2008. It is through your faithful commitment and support that we are able to put our **Faith in Action**.

Prayerfully consider what your financial commitment will be to the ongoing worship, fellowship, evangelism, missions, discipleship, and ministry of the church.

#### 2008 Narrative Budget Stewardship

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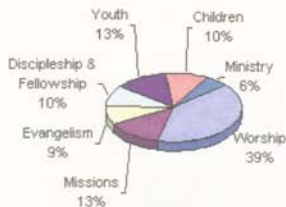
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#### MINISTRY

#### COST

#### Allocations by Church Ministry

Worship	\$ 394,465
Missions	132,464
Evangelism	85,090
Discipleship & Fellowship	95,673
Youth	123,838
Children	99,448
Ministry	57,314
<b>TOTAL MINISTRY BUDGET</b>	<b>\$988,292</b>



*Love the Lord your God  
with all your heart and  
with all your soul and with  
all your mind and with all  
your strength.*

*Mark 12: 30*



Mission Bend UMC Sanctuary

*Go to the people of all  
nations and make them  
my disciples. Baptizing  
them in the name of the  
Father, the Son, and the  
Holy Spirit, and teach  
them to do everything I  
have told you.*

*Matthew 28: 19-20*



## Worship

Every Sunday hundreds of people gather in three services to show our love for God in a relaxed friendly environment. We believe worship should not be stuffy, but a celebration; a place that is alive and a place where your life will be changed.

The messages that you hear will always be biblical and will celebrate our life together in Christ. We host several services. Each offering a unique worship experience:

- Traditional worship service - 8:30 a.m.
- Praise service - 9:40 a.m.
- Blending of Traditional and Praise - 11:00 a.m.
- And many special seasonal worship services:
  - Christmas Eve
  - Ash Wednesday
  - Lent
  - Holy Thursday
  - Good Friday
  - Easter

The music program is under the guidance of our Music Director with the support of numerous staff, volunteers and assistants. Our worship ministries also include our ushers and greeters, who do a wonderful ministry of welcoming members and guests into our worship services, and a drama ministry, which brings energy and creativity to our worship experience. The amount needed for total support of the worship ministries in 2008 is \$394,465.



The Mission Bend UMC Choir

## Missions

God is at work in the world and He wants us to join Him. At Mission Bend you have an opportunity to respond to Christ's love in a real way that grows God's family and spreads the faith. Through our Missions ministries we share with others our varied talent and gifts that God gave us, and by doing so we help share his love.

Every year we support a multitude of different outreaches including providing housing for a homeless teen and furnishing school supplies for nearby public schools. Mission Bend UMC is an active part of the Mission Bells Food Pantry supplying emergency food to area residents.

We respond to hurricane disasters. This year, we went to affected

areas and helping to clear out fallen trees and debris. Our Agape fund reaches out to people in need in our church and community who are experiencing economic and personal crises including loss of job, rent and or mortgage assistance, shelter and food. We are also partnering with the mission projects of the United Methodist Church and each year literally touch people around the world in the name and spirit of Jesus Christ.

Our international mission focus this year has been the Nothing But Nets campaign, which is a global, grassroots campaign to save lives by preventing malaria, a leading killer of children in Africa. As of September of this year we have raised more than \$6,000 to the Nothing but Nets ministry.

## Missions (cont.)



Helping those less fortunate in our community

More than 600 families have been blessed to have a mosquito net that keeps mosquitoes from biting during the night and spreading the killer disease.

When you become active in Mission Bend UMC you will have many opportunities to spread Jesus' message of life changing love and provision in ways that will not only help others, but will transform you. The total needed for the support of the missions of the church for 2008 is \$132,464.

## Evangelism

In the last nine months our congregation has been intentional about preparing and equipping itself for reaching others with the good news of Jesus Christ. In February, March, and April of this year the church participated in 40 Days of Community with an emphasis on spiritual renewal through small group faith forming relationships and outreach to our community.

We continue to evaluate and upgrade our facilities and signage to insure that we are an inviting and visitor friendly congregation. We work to keep our website up to date with newsletters, ministry and discipleship opportunities, a word from the pastor and devotional links.

In addition to the website, welcome postcards are sent to several zip codes of persons who have just moved into the community on a monthly basis inviting them to our worship services. A mass mail out is also done twice a year inviting nearby communities to our Christmas and Easter holiday services and ministries.

This year we qualified for the Welcoming Church recognition award sponsored by the Igniting Ministries of the United Methodist Church. This recognizes those churches in our connection that have shown exceptional diligence in creating a welcoming and caring environment for persons visiting their campus and worship services. The total amount needed for support of our evangelism ministries for 2008 is \$85,090.

*The Good news shows how God makes people right with himself — that it begins and ends with faith. For God was in Christ reconciling the world to himself, no longer counting people's sins against them. This is the wonderful message he has given us to tell others.*

*2 Corinthians 5:19*



## Discipleship and Fellowship

It was God's plan to make us like his Son, Jesus. As disciples we are called to grow in the love and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. We are called to gather on a regular basis and engage in intentional Bible study and Christian prayer. These groups contain children, youth, and adults. The focus of

these groups is on intentional spiritual growth. Included in these small group

discipleship opportunities is Disciple Bible Study, Companions in Christ, Christian Believer, confirmation classes and youth ministries.

For the third year in a row our Sunday School classes and small group studies ministries

*You are members of God's very own family, citizens of God's country, and you belong in God's household with every other Christian.*

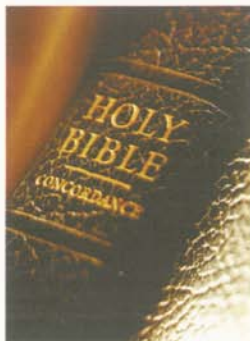
*Ephesians 2:19b*



Our Academy offers a Christian based education to the children in our community

*Everything in the  
Scriptures is God's Word.  
All of it is useful for  
teaching and helping people  
and correcting them and  
showing them how to live.*

*2 Timothy 3:16*



*It is God himself who has  
made us what we are and  
given us new lives from  
Christ Jesus; and long  
ages ago he planned that  
we should spend these lives  
in helping others.*

*Ephesians 2:10*

## Discipleship and Fellowship (cont.)



Connie Fowler leads a discussion in Confirmation Class

have been the recipient of the Five Star Excellence award for outstanding work in the area of creating Christian discipleship opportunities. The prayer ministry has also sponsored several classes that introduce persons to ministry of prayer.

Every Sunday teens gather to strengthen their faith in a high-energy time of worship, study, fellowship, and fun. Beyond the weekly gathering, there are regular retreats, summer youth camp, a youth praise band, mission trips and Bible studies. This past summer the youth attended the Youth 2007 Convention where more than 8000 Methodist youth from all over the globe

gathered in Greensboro, NC, for Christian fellowship.

Through the Mission Bend Christian Academy we continue to shape the lives of children and families in our congregation and community with a Christian worldview. We provide a Christ-centered, academically accelerated program that develops good character, strong moral values, and love for learning. The total amount needed for the support of our discipleship, fellowship, youth, and children ministries for 2008 is \$318,959.



Our UMYF Group won first place AND a new laptop for the church in the Amazing Bible Race at Youth 2007

## Ministry

We serve God by serving others. Jesus measures greatness in terms of service not status. Servants are always looking for ways to serve and care for one another. We offer several opportunities and ways to use our spiritual gifts to serve others.



Mickey Ellis, Pat Howell, and Dorothy Below hand craft quilt squares for our Prayers and Squares ministry.

Stephen Ministry is a ministry in our congregation in which trained and supervised lay persons, called Stephen Ministers, provide one-on-one Christian care to individuals facing life challenges or crises including job loss, divorce, and illness. We also have a strong Lay Caring Ministry where members offer care and support by visiting members or friends of the congregation that are hospitalized, in nursing homes, extended care facilities and the home bound.

In addition to these ministries the lay ministry team sponsors the Prayers and Squares ministry. This is an interfaith outreach ministry that combines the gift of prayer with the gift of hand-tied quilts. The total amount needed for the support of our ministry component in 2008 is \$57,314.