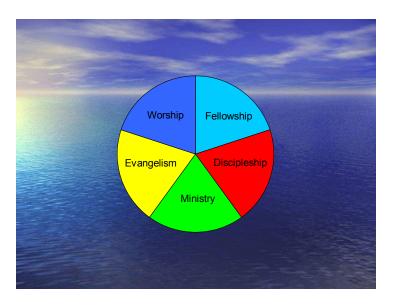
How God uses our Tithe's and Offerings at Highland United Methodist Church



The reason for our church's existence, and the purpose of our church budget, is to connect people to God through Jesus Christ. Here at Highland United Methodist Church we embrace the idea that the expression of this faith is manifested in the five purposes as outlined in Rick Warren's "The Purpose Driven Life". So before we talk about the budget, let's look at what the budget has enabled us to do in accomplishing God's purposes. Let's see how we are using our God given talents, and time, to connect people to God's light.



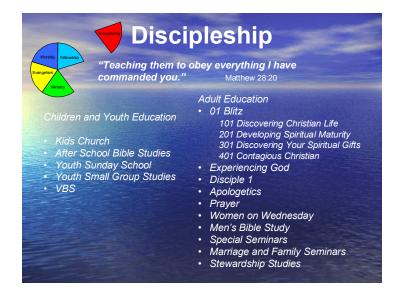
Worship is central to our congregational life at HUMC. In Matthew 22, Jesus tells us to love the Lord with all our hearts. This is worship. Psalm 147:11 says "The Lord is pleased only with those who worship him and trust his love." At the core of our worship we have 3 Sunday services and several special services through the year. We also worship through out the week in our Praise Groups and Prayer Teams. Through worship we open a gateway directly to Him.

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The heart of fellowship is baptism. In the Great Commission Jesus commanded his disciples to "baptize them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit." Baptism into the body of Christ. The "Purpose Driven Life" tell us "As Christians we are called to belong, not just to believe". This identification is fellowship. In addition to baptism HUMC offers many opportunities to belong to each other in the body of Christ throughout our spiritual walk. Once we open the gateway to God, fellowship sustains us on our journey.



Paul says in Ephesians 4 it is our duty to educate the body of Christ until we all reach spiritual unity and maturity in the knowledge of Jesus Christ. Our pastor and Education Committee develop programs for learners of all ages. Classes are available Sunday mornings and Bible Studies are offered at various times throughout the week. Our pastor, children's director and youth director devote much of their time and energy in this area. Our adult classes range from our 01 blitz core classes to the "Experiencing God" and "Disciple 1" classes. In addition our church offers a wide variety of educational opportunities for spiritual growth. As worship opens the gateway to God, discipleship provides the path.

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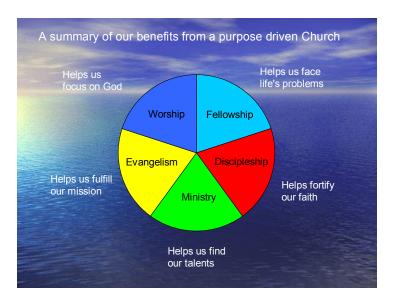


In Matthew 22:37-40 Jesus tell us to love our neighbors as ourselves. This is ministry, to reach out to people with God's love; meet their needs, heal their hurts. Our ministries reach many people in our community, state, nation, and around the world. We embrace two very large ministries. These are the Children and Youth Ministries of our church. In addition we have a large contingent of volunteers to staff our many people care ministries that touch the lives of those challenged by: grief, divorce, chronic pain, addictions, and special needs, to name just a few. This year we plan on expanding the Counseling Center Ministry to help those seeking individual care. Ministry allows us to walk like Jesus along our spiritual path.



In John 17:18 Jesus said while praying to the Father about his followers, "Just as you have sent me into the world, I am sending them into the world". Through our Mission Committee we distribute support to numerous local and national mission outreach programs. Mission work is also an important part of our Children and Youth Ministries. We are excited about our growing mission work at HUMC. Last year in addition to our vouth mission trips and various mission activities we added a Mexico Mission to Rio Bravo and will continue this mission this year. In addition we are adding an African Mission to Durban, South Africa in August. After our 2008 Faith and Action Day, Service on Saturdays was added to our list of mission opportunities. We call it SOS and it continues to grow and server as local outreach today. Evangelism allows us to say come with us, hear the GOOD NEWS, as we walk down the spiritual path.

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All these benefits are possible only by the generous and joyful re-gifting of our God given treasures. Giving back treasure is just as important as giving back your time and talents.



So let's take a look at how God is using our 2009 budget through our church. As you can see our budget is invested in 5 categories:

27% in Worship

15% in Local Outreach

15% in Global Outreach

25% in Congregational Care

18% in Building and Grounds

Let's look at each category.

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We have 3 worship services every Sunday and several special services through out the year. Our services consist of:

Our Pastors sermons,

Music.

Testimonies, Drama, and Video Technical and Hospitality

Ministries

Special Speakers & Pastors

All are designed to love and honor and glorify God



A large part of our local outreach is to the children and youth in our local communities. This outreach is staffed by our Children and Youth Ministry Directors. These ministries encompass all 5 purposes. In addition to these programs, our budget includes expenses for our support ministries, small groups, and local community support programs. With the completion of our new Family Life Center we are excited to expand our local outreach into our surrounding communities.

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Global Outreach represents our apportionments paid to the United Methodist Church Conference. This apportionment connects our church to the Global United Methodist church body. This connection allows us to:

Help meet community needs through out the world

Help provide for the care of our church leaders

Enables us to receive:

Education & Training Materials & Programs Consultations & Guidance

Enable us to become a more effective and efficient church.



Pastoral Care is a vital part of our Congregational care, especially for those who are ill, hospitalized, bereaved, or facing other crises in their lives. As our congregation continues to grow our other congregational care needs also continue to grow. Our missions, ministries, education, committees, outreach programs, and group activities all require communications, coordination, publications, and general office support.

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Our building is an expanding footprint in our community and a beacon for our local outreach activities.

It's a gathering place for us to connect as the body of Christ and to assist us in doing his work.

It's a conduit for God's light to shine as he works through us.



God provides us all our resources, time, talents, and treasures. Why? To carry out his work in this world. Faithful stewardship of those resources allows ministry to grow and touch lives and is the fulfillment of our Faith in Jesus Christ.

How are lives being changed at HUMC?

Through the extraordinary generous giving of so many people who shared their time, treasures and talents we are able to touch many lives. Each line on this slide touches many lives in some cases hundreds and thousands. We hope that this presentation has impacted you with the breath and depth of God's work in our church. May it encourage you to spend thoughtful prayer time to consider how God is at work in you to give back a portion of the gifts he has given you to accomplish his work.