North Decatur UMC

Mission

Making Disciples of Jesus Christ for the Transformation of the World.

Description

North Decatur UMC has recently instituted a Pastoral Residency Program in conjunction with Candler. In exchange for a commitment from students to remain with us for their entire seminary career, NDUMC will offer stipends each year and offer students the chance to stretch their ministry wings in a congregation open to new things and excited about new people.

NDUMC is a church that is discovering growth by reaching out to its community in new ways. With the arrival of a thirty-year-old pastor, the church has found success reaching out to young families and young adults. The congregation is in the process of right-sizing after overspending for the last several years, so there is a real opportunity for a rebirth (new pastor, new community demographics, new priorities, new church council structure, a number of new members, new money for ministry, a new worship director who was the organist at General Conference and brings incredible creativity and skills to worship). The church takes mission very seriously, and it is looking for even more opportunities to serve the community. Children's ministry is a new focus, as is welcoming/hospitality, as the church has a rich history of welcoming all sorts of people (rich, poor, gay, straight, black, white, young, old). NDUMC is a multicultural church in a multicultural area; it sits at a busy corner with Clarkston on one side and the North Decatur suburbs on the other. An active preschool gives new opportunities for ministry.

Unique Opportunities in Ministry

Lots of churches talk about how they are "growing." NDUMC actually is growing, particularly in ministry to young adults and young families. We're also a multicultural congregation and learning to live together in diversity: after all, the more diverse the congregation, the fuller the picture of the face of God.

Site Details

Outreach

We've been involved for years with Hagar's House, Decatur Cooperative Ministry, Decatur Emergency Assistance Ministry, Trinity Table, Trinity House, and the United Methodist Children's Home. In addition, we've begun new a new partnership with Stop Hunger Now.

Meeting the Five Areas of Ministry

Administration:

Students will be viewed by the congregation as associate pastors, which means they are invited to participate in the administrative life (planning, deciding, etc) of the church.

Liturgy (Worship and Preaching):

Students will serve as liturgists each week
Due to the unique nature of the Pastoral Residency Program, students will be viewed as part of the pastoral staff. They will have regular opportunities to preach.

**Mission and Outreach:**
Mission is the lifeblood of NDUMC, and students are invited to learn more and take leadership in this area, both in terms of current opportunities and in terms of nurturing new ones.

**Pastoral Calling and Congregational Care:**
Students will have every opportunity to engage in hospital visits, crisis situations, funerals, etc. It is expected that they will also help us reach out to our homebound folks.

**Religious Education:**
Christian education and small group ministry is a growing edge for us, for sure. In the coming years we look forward to new initiatives; come help us!

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Denomination</th>
<th>United Methodist</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Location Type</td>
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<tr>
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| Weekly Schedule    | Worship Sundays at 11am
|                    | Christian education Sundays at 9:45am
|                    | Various mission projects and events during the week |
| Stipend?           | Yes. For the second year, we offer $5000 a year. |
| Distance from Candler | two miles                      |
| Accessible to persons with disabilities? | Yes and no. We have an elevator for those unable to use stairs. The only area not current accessible is the chancel area. |
| Accessible via public transportation? | yes. There is a bus stop on our campus and we are about a mile from the MARTA line. |
| Can women be ordained? | yes                                  |
| What role do women play in leadership? | NDUMC was one of the first churches in the North Georgia Conference to have both a female senior pastor and female associate pastor. The church has been very supportive of women in ministry. |

**Contact**

http://www.ndumc.org

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