Emby Hills UMC

Mission

To make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world

Description

Emby Hills UMC is a thousand member congregation of well educated professional people. This summer it will be fifty three years old. It has a significant number of older adults but also a growing number of younger families with children. Theologically it is more liberal; Politically, more conservative; generally very Wesleyan. Its logo states, "...an inclusive faith community."

Unique Opportunities in Ministry

The church continues to struggle after a controversial pastorate preceding the current clergy leadership. The economic recession plus inner turmoil result in losing several full time staff. The community is changing racially and ethnically, re-stabilizing after a long period of deline. Many two income, well educated wage earners moving in. Church struggles to be an inclusive faith community open to people of all ages, sexual orientation, education level, and ethnic origin. Opportunities abound for helping change the culture of the church from a 1950-60's model to a viable twenty first century model.

Site Details

Outreach

We are active in providing Snax Sax to area Title 1 schools. We support the UNited Methodist Children's Home mission, Breakthru House, and NET works (local agency that provides emergency assistance, job training, childcare training). We maintain the Thrifty Store, a store that sells gently used and recycled and repaired items that people bring to their workshop during the week. The proceeds from the Thrifty Store help fund mission projects in the life of the church.

Meeting the Five Areas of Ministry

Administration:

CE 2 students are encouraged to come to all administrative and ministry committees of the church and to take an active part. They are expected to be at several staff meetings during the year.

Liturgy (Worship and Preaching):

Students are expected to preact at least once in both sevices, participate as a worship leader in services, and take part in planning worship. Typically, a student takes the lead on organizing and carrying out the Pet Blessing service in the fall. The senior pastor and worship staff work with students to develop sermons, prayers, etc., observe them in their work. then reflect with them on the process.

Mission and Outreach:

Students are encouraged to participate in ongoing mission/ougreach projects as well as design and implement one of his/her own.
Pastoral Calling and Congregational Care:
As schedule allows, students are invited to assist in funerals/memorial services, visit shut-ins, and make hospital calls. The pastor always asks the student to reflect on those experiences with regard to their operational theology v. their "academic" theology; their own understanding of pastoral care; their experience of having been given pastoral care by others at some critical point in their life.

Religious Education:
Students are asked to assist with confirmation classes, youth retreats, teach child, youth, and adult classes, "Time on the Steps" (Children's worship) and lead Bible studies.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Denomination</th>
<th>United Methodist</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Location Type</td>
<td>Suburban</td>
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<tr>
<td>Worship Attendance</td>
<td>225+</td>
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<tr>
<td>Worship Times</td>
<td>8:45 AM and 11 AM Sundays</td>
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<tr>
<td>Weekly Schedule</td>
<td>8:45 Sunday worship (informal, meditative 11:00 Sunday worship (very liturgical, &quot;high church&quot;) 5 PM Sunday Youth Fellowship 6 PM Wednesday Cafe del Sol, ESL classes, Knitting group, Saturday, The Thrifty Store (run by the Craftsmen) Annual UMM?UMW BBQ and Bake Sale (May) RMN sponsored (Food) Truck Rodeo (May)</td>
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<td>Stipend?</td>
<td>No</td>
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<td>Distance from Candler</td>
<td>6 miles</td>
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<td>Accessible to persons with disabilities?</td>
<td>Yes. However, the physical plant is poorly designed for individuals with mobility issues. The building is a very long one with many levels. We have elevators but it can be a journey to get from one end to the other.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Accessible via public transportation?</td>
<td>Yes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Can women be ordained?</td>
<td>Yes</td>
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<td>What role do women play in leadership?</td>
<td>Women are chairing several administrative and ministry groups (SPRC, Church Council, Finance, Outreach Team, Nurture Team, New Member Team, Lay Leader. Two program staff are women.</td>
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