

Congregational Profile 2010

Morgan Hill UMC

Summary by Staff-Parish Relations Committee

Structure: Good infrastructure in place to support a half-time pastor

- Strong Staff-Parish Relations, Finance, Worship, and Building Committees and Administrative Board
- Finances and attendance improving over the past year
- Significant work on the Church building and Annex facilities is ongoing.
- Parsonage has been successfully rented to provide income
- Have paid off some loans, making effort on increasing apportionments

Characteristics

- Informal worship with participation from congregation
- “Dialog” sermons very highly valued
- Appreciate multi-cultural-multi-tradition viewpoint in addition to purely Biblical approach
- Good diversity of age, income, class and improving on race
- Spectrum of progressive and traditional Christian approach
- Committed to outreach with homeless and disadvantaged mothers, but primary focus for support is within congregation itself
- Tendency is to sustain a small ~50-60 person church rather than expansion. Somewhat local-centric vs. outward-looking
- Many people attend irregularly; some people absent for weeks at a time, but are still active and feel well-connected when they are present
- Many congregants are not well-connected with Methodist tradition. Working on education.
- Need to work on developing Hospitality/Greeting focus for guests
- Weekly emails from Church Secretary bring solidarity, most of the church is on Facebook.

Goals

- To become financially self-sustaining and increase ability to support apportionments
- To become more welcoming and outwardly focused
- Increase diversity of race, ethnicity