

2018 Annual Report

IMPACTING LIVES FOR CHRIST



Dear Friends in Christ,

Your God-inspired support helped make a real and lasting difference in the lives of many in our community, and beyond, throughout 2018. We're deeply thankful for God's bold call to continued mission and ministry in 2019. Please join me in offering thanks to God by celebrating the inspiring successes of 2018 in the pages to follow.

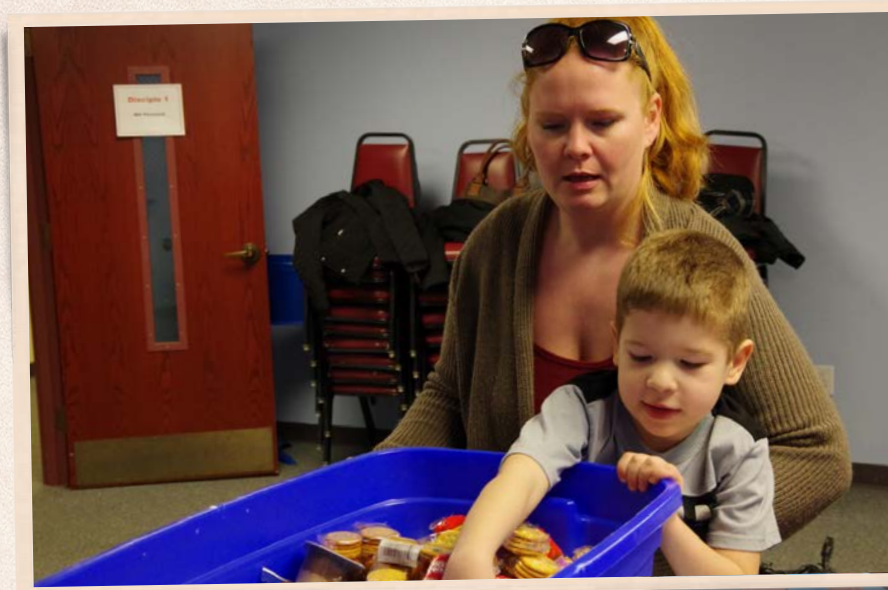
Rev. Phil Estes
Executive Pastor of Operations & Generosity



MISSIONS

Our church has a heart for outreach to our community. Our goal over the next three years is to resource 500 people in the Parkway, Rockwood, and Valley Park school districts. As you can see, we blew the goal away last year. In 2018, we:

- Helped 15,422 persons overall, thanks to 1,300 volunteers who helped with this effort
- VIM (Volunteers in Mission) team traveled to Vieques, Puerto Rico to do roof repair on three homes heavily damaged by Hurricane Maria
- Gave away our 7,000th bike. Bike Rehab, which serves low-income families and individuals, continued to grow
- Collected 1,150 shoes through Sneakers with Soul, which serves low-income school children
- Provided personal hygiene items for over 600 West County families and individuals through our Personal Essentials Ministry, which was launched in partnership with Circle of Concern
- Collected \$61,226 to support local agencies through our Christmas offering
- Raised \$43,674 to support Mozambique school and medical efforts through our Easter offering
- Collected 2,480 gifts and \$6,060 in donations for local agencies through Gifts in White

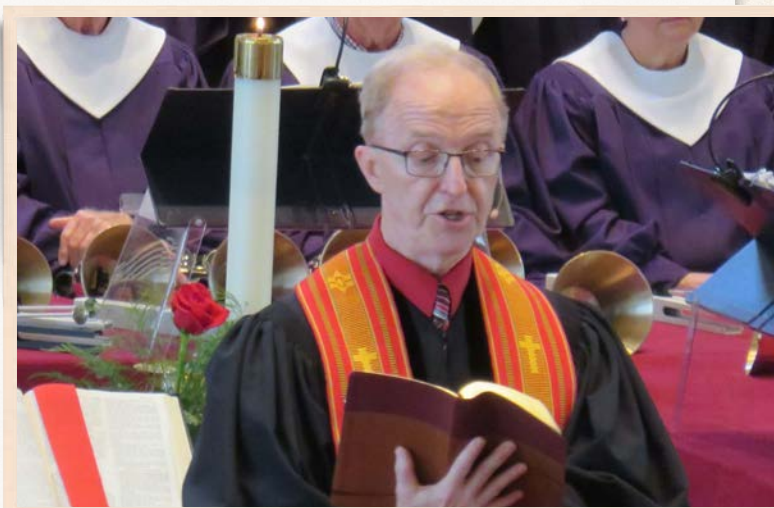


MISSIONS

WORSHIP

Our goal in worship is to shape our experiences to reach all people of God. By the end of 2021, we aim to increase weekly attendance from 1,100 to 1,350. Several major steps were taken this year, providing a solid foundation going forward. In 2018 we:

- Expanded our outreach by livestreaming both the 9:30 and 11:00 a.m. services. Currently, we have 40-65 viewers each week from states as far away as California, Florida, and New York
- Launched a new web site in May 2018 aimed at generating more interest in the church. Since then we have had 157,000 site visitors and the number continues to grow
- Expanded our social media efforts including Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter. In all, 216,000 users saw our church message on social media
- Added a Modern Worship concert to the Joy of Music series. This new concert appeals to those who seek a more contemporary worship event
- Grew team of Lay Readers and Greeters serving morning worship services. This team is now more intergenerational
- Added Stephen Ministers at worship on the 1st Sunday of each month for prayer and support of anyone in need



DISCIPLESHIP

Manchester UMC wants to grow the number of people connecting in Christian community and living more missionally. By 2021, we seek to help 500 people take a next step on their faith journey (e.g. join a new group, attend a class, serve on a ministry team, or become a member). In 2018, we saw growth in many ministries including:

CHILDREN AND FAMILY

- Celebrated the resurrection through "Easter Eggstravaganza" with church and community families, including 303 participants and 42 volunteers
- Shared God's love with 237 children attending VBS with the support of 102 youth and adult volunteers
- Offered a fun-filled "Fall Festival" featuring family fellowship with games, activities, and a shared meal in a joyful environment where everyone felt welcome. A total of 724 participants were welcomed by 58 youth and adult volunteers
- Paired an Advent movie night with an evening tour of the St. Louis Zoo's Wild Lights. Movie night included a chance to create an Advent wreath and a take-home family Advent devotional. Over 200 children and parent/guardian participants participated in these events

My husband and I have been attending MUMC off and on for many years. Last spring, we decided we needed to really start going on a regular basis. As we started at the church, we were introduced to the variety of children's programming. My two children, Lucy and Garrett, loved it from day one. I cannot say enough how amazing MUMC Children's Ministry has been for our family. The variety of programs and opportunities that are offered truly go above and beyond. My children now regularly say they cannot wait to go back to church. Who could ask for anything more?



DISCIPLESHIP



FAITH FORMATION & CONNECTIONS

- Launched a new, centralized Information Center in the lobby
- Held a 'Prescription to Addiction' event to raise community awareness with 100 people in attendance
- Launched our first outdoor Ash Wednesday service, Ash & Dash, and served over 300 people from the community
- Served 1,733 meals through our Meals and Ministry program
- Had 1,217 people participate in faith formation groups



YOUTH

Manchester UMC actively wants to grow the number of middle and senior high students in the Youth Ministry. By 2021, we hope to have 100 youth actively engaged each week. This year we:

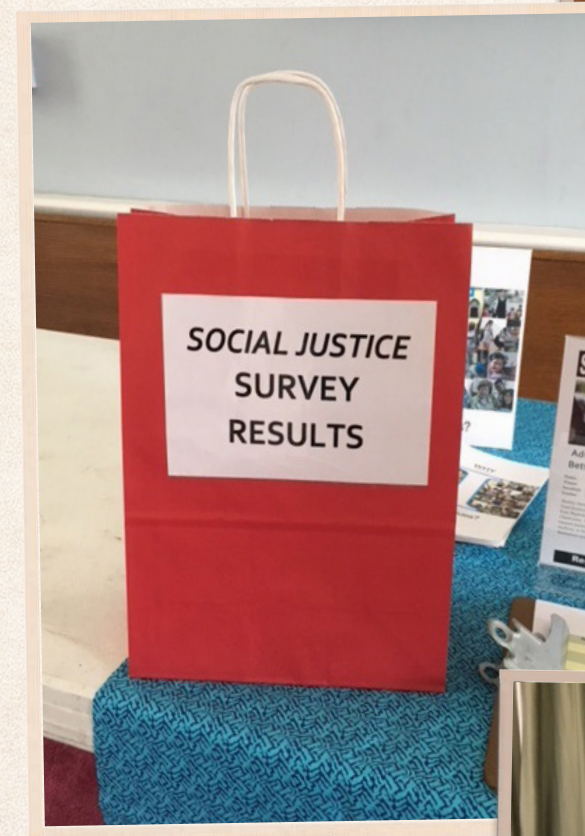
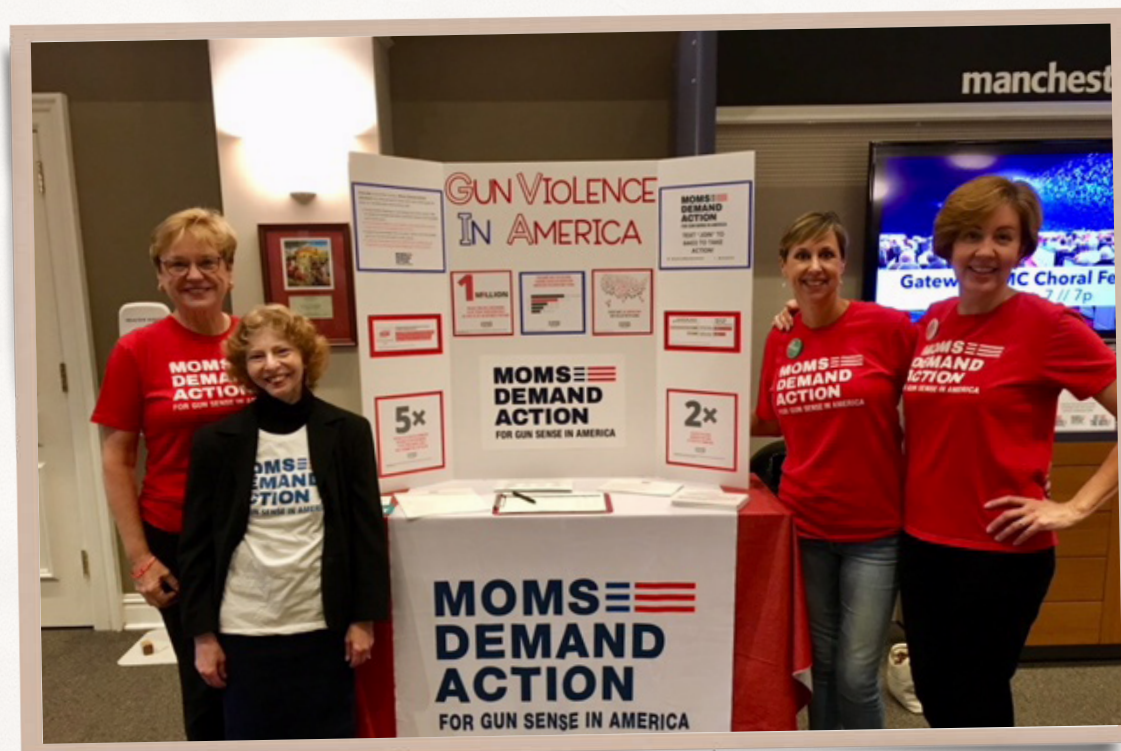
- Remodeled our Youth Center to be more appealing and functional for those in grades 6-12
- Hosted 54 middle-school students during a February lock-in, where they found fellowship, fun, and an engaging faith experience
- Raised \$15,000 for camps and mission trips through Night at the Bistro. This will allow more youth to go, and provide a more compelling experience
- Had 26 high school students who served as volunteers on a high school mission trip
- Raised \$250 for Circle of Concern in October



SOCIAL JUSTICE

Eighty volunteers signed on as servant leaders to be part of one or more of these justice-work opportunities:

- Start of Social Justice Ministry at Manchester UMC expanded the model of justice beyond Missions
- Over 400 members participated in a survey to prioritize issues. Five teams were formed:
 - Gun Violence
 - Hunger and Poverty in the U.S.
 - Mental Health
 - Racial Justice
 - Reconciling (LGBTQ) Ministry
- Hosted a gun violence panel discussion in October, which included a U.S. Attorney and a “Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense” representative. Called “Elevating the Conversation,” it received local media attention, including a spot on KSDK News. Approximately 100 attended.



YOUNG ADULTS

We are actively targeting people age 25-35 to have a first-time experience with Manchester UMC. By 2021, our goal is that 4 out of every 10 people will be in this age range. Some of the steps we took this year are:

- Enhanced Meals & Ministries to appeal to a younger audience by:
 - Offering Food 4 Kids and Children's Choir ministries during M&M's
 - Partnering with the Hospitality Ministry to offer more variety/lower cost kids-meals, to-go meals, and extended dinner service times that will appeal to younger families
 - Adding classes during Children's Choir for parents and others, including childcare
- Offered new classes for young parents during Circle of Friends (COF) summer program and school year
- Provided pastoral care support to COF families
- Continued our One for the Crow garden space in South City, which supplies fresh food to Kingdom House and other charities
- Launched the South City Fresh Expression Ministry called "Shared Streets," which created "New Places for New People" small groups and faith communities with 65 participants, mostly young adults

Shared Streets is something, after a lifelong search, I can finally call my church home... Asking the truly hard questions (and digging deep for the answers) is what church should be about, it is the role that the Church can still play with young people of all stripes. I'm looking forward to giving the ministry all I have to offer as it continues to grow.

-Tyler



GENEROSITY

To keep our church strong to accomplish Christ's mission, we must strengthen and grow our financial resources. The Generosity team enthusiastically embraced this mission. It's goal: to communicate how the people of our church support life-change by investing in the mission and ministry of Jesus.

This year the Generosity team:

- Delivered 15 communication pieces (November 2017 to November 2018)
- Held one-on-one conversations, and small group meetings
- Provided quarterly video financial reports
- Utilized social media/website news to keep the congregation informed

"Unfinished" Two-year Ministry Plan Results (as of 12/31/18):

- 58% of pledges received
- Capital gifts and pledges exceeded goal of \$225,000 for a total of \$290,000 (for Debt Reduction and the Heating & Cooling Replacement fund)
- Youth Center Remodeling project exceeded its goal of \$30,000 for a total of \$81,000
- Year-end general budget surplus of \$19,572

In "The Book of Joy," Archbishop Desmond Tutu shares that he sometimes jokes that God doesn't know very much math, because when you give to others it should be that you are subtracting from yourself, but it often seems that you are only making space for more to be given to you. That's how we've experienced generosity in our lives, so it's only natural that we would want to support others finding this source of joy in their lives. Being part of the Generosity Team at Manchester UMC gives us the privilege of sharing and supporting this joy-filled spiritual discipline.

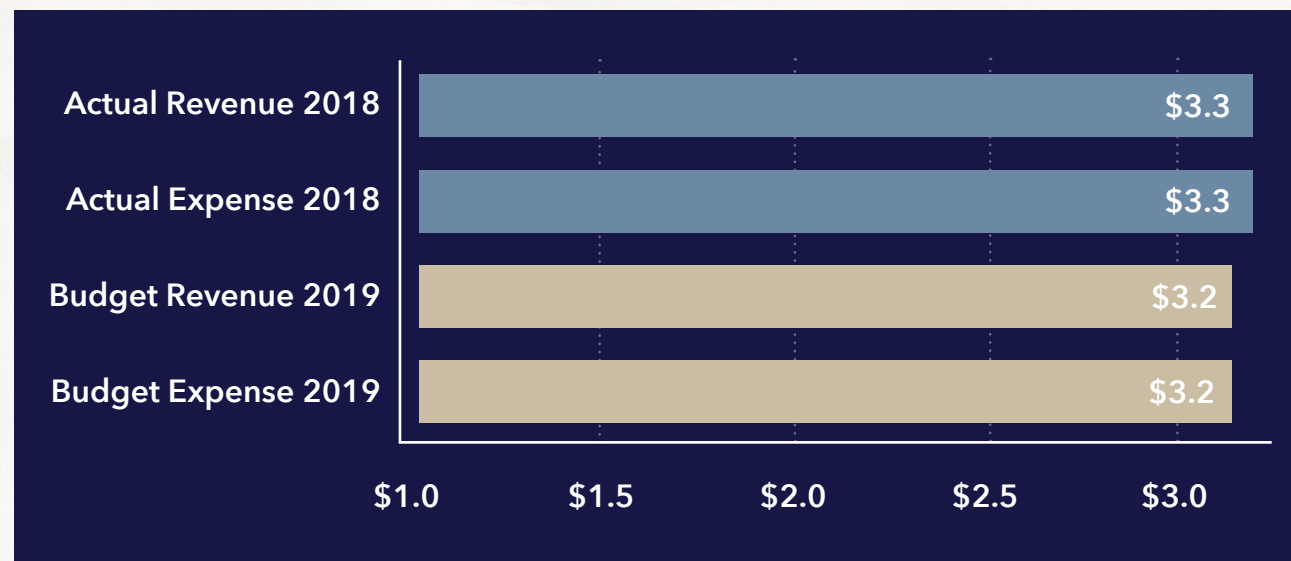
- Rebecca & Kyle Peterson



YEAR-END SUMMARY & 2019 BUDGET GOAL

unfinished... MINISTRY PLAN BUDGET 2018-19

	2018 Actual	2019 Budget	Combined
Revenue	\$3,305,420	\$3,226,969	\$6,532,389
Expense	(\$3,020,849)	(\$3,059,541)	(\$6,080,390)
Building/HVAC Revenues (Designated)	(\$264,999)	(\$187,000)	(\$451,999)
Difference	\$19,572	(\$19,572)	-----



Engaging Worship, Spiritual Connection, and Heartfelt Service!

Thank you for your heartfelt support of, and sacrificial investment in, God's vision for the mission and ministry of Manchester United Methodist Church. Together,

we're following God's call to offer engaging Worship, spiritual Connection, and heartfelt Service to transform church and community for Christ!



Blessings,

Rev. Phil Estes
Executive Pastor of Operations and Generosity



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