

JANUARY 2019

the EPISTLE



Dear Friends,

In the New Year....

Are you interested in learning more about Saint Paul's UMC or becoming a member of our church? Join us Sunday, January 13 for STARTING POINT, a 45 minute introduction to SPUMC with Pastor Kandace. Class will meet in Kandace's office. Register online or write "STARTING POINT" on the Registration of Attendance pads in worship if you are interested.

Human Sexuality and The United Methodist Church: General Conference 2019

The Council of Bishops has called a Special Session of the General Conference of The United Methodist Church to be held February 23-26, 2019 in St. Louis, Missouri. The purpose will be to receive and act on a report from the Commission on a Way Forward based on the recommendations of the Council of Bishops. The 32-member Commission was authorized by General Conference 2016 and appointed by the Council of Bishops to examine paragraphs in The Book of Discipline concerning human sexuality and exploring options to strengthen the unity of the church.

If you would like to learn more about the Special Conference and the various plans that are being presented, you are invited to attend a three week series of classes to be held Wednesday nights in **Sanders Hall, January 9, 16 and 23**. Sessions will begin at 6:15 p.m. following dinner. We will be discussing the issue of human sexuality through the lens of empathy, context and mission. To register, please go online or call the church office. The recommended reading for this class is Bishop Ken Carter's book, *Embracing the Wideness of God's Mercy*.

In addition, Pastor Kandace is happy to come to any Sunday School class to discuss the various plans put forward for the General Conference. Please give her a call if you would like to schedule her for your Sunday School class.

Kandace

2019 Operating Budget Where Does the Money Go?

For 2019, the Finance Committee is recommending an Operating Budget of \$975,351, which is just slightly below our budget for 2018. The Finance Team thought it might be instructive for you to know some basics about where your money goes.

The Operating Expense budget is divided into three large categories:

Staff Salaries and Benefits makes up approximately 60% of our budget.

- This includes an Associate Pastor for six months of the year, as we expect an appointment in July 2019
- Staff salaries have not increased
- Insurance costs have increased approximately 9%.

Program Expenses makes up approximately 15% of our budget

- This amount includes our apportionments, which are \$86,930 or 8.9% of our overall budget
 - ◊ Apportionments go to fund the ministries and expenses of the connectional church, and include monies for district, conference, and denominational ministries.

Program Support and Administration makes up approximately 25% of our budget

- These are the expenses that keep the church running – utilities; insurance costs; building maintenance; technology; postage and printing.

I am so grateful to our Finance Team and all of the program areas who have done really good work in keeping those costs that we can control as low as possible...know that they are faithful stewards of the gifts that you give to the church.

JANUARY *events*

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN RUTH CIRCLE

Tuesday, January 8, 11:00 a.m.

The Ruth Circle will meet in **Room 200**. All women of the church are welcome. For more information contact Peggy Harter, 878-1343.

FINANCIAL PEACE

Did you start saving last January for this year's Christmas spending? Are you certain you're going to spend less than you make this month because you're living off of a budget? Julie and William Hatfield will lead this course starting **January 9**. Dave Ramsey's Financial Peace University class will help you take control of your money and your future. This nine-week class will meet at SPUMC on **Wednesday nights** in **room 300**, with free childcare if needed. (Time is 6:30 to 8:00, and we won't run late.) This class is great for singles and couples — but spouses must attend! The course costs \$129 but we can't emphasize enough how worth the price it is. If you need to order a kit, please call the church office and sign up to attend. For more information, contact Peggy Benton in the church office.

HUMAN SEXUALITY AND THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Wednesdays, 6:15 p.m.

A Special Session of the General Conference will be held in February to examine and discuss paragraphs in the Book of Discipline concerning human sexuality and the United Methodist Church. If you would like to learn more about the Special Conference and the various plans being presented, please plan to attend a three week course on **Wednesday nights at 6:15 p.m., January 9, 16 and 23**. We will discuss the issue of human sexuality through the lens of empathy, context and mission. To register go online or call the church office.

CRAFTY CROP 2-DAY EVENT

Friday & Saturday, January 11 & 12

Join us for our January two-day event with fun gals and crafty fellowship! Bring your own projects and a covered dish/snack to share! \$5 to reserve your table space and to contribute to our MOPS Ministry for young moms. Come for one day or both and stay any length of time. We will be in Sanders Hall with plenty of space so be sure to bring your friends! Find the Facebook Event and let us know you are coming!

MANNA ON MERIDIAN

Bagging for Manna **Monday, January 14, 5:00 - 6:00 p.m.** Distribution **Saturday, January 19, 8:00 - 10:00 a.m.** Both at Faith Presbyterian. Contact Charles Hubbard, chazhub55@gmail.com.

PACESETTERS

January 17 at 11:30 a.m.

Pacesetters Church-wide Fellowship Luncheon: **Thursday, January 17**, in **Sanders Hall**. Is it ever too late to start setting goals? Have you reached harmony and balance in all the key areas of your life? Life and Wellness Coach Connie Clark will present her straight-forward techniques for focusing our energies in the right direction for 2019! All are welcome. Pacesetters is a fellowship group focused at the 50+ group, but they don't check IDs, so please join us! Please RSVP by Tuesday, January 15. The cost is \$7.00 at the door.

NOVEL CHATS

Thursday, January 24, 10:00 a.m.

Saint Paul's Book Club meets in **room 200**. Members read the same book and meet to hear a review by one of our members, followed by a discussion by the whole group. This month's book is *The Tea Girl of Hummingbird Lane* by Lisa See. Everyone is welcome.

SOUL FOOD

Bagging: Wednesday, January 23 - 12:00 p.m.

Distribution: Saturday, January 26 - 9:30

Our Soul Food ministry (helping our Lake Ella homeless neighbors) has been in existence for five years.

We continue to distribute to-go type foods, small (hotel sized) toiletries, laundry cards (from Wash Around the Clock on Tharpe St), and laundry detergent the last Saturday of each month at 9:30 a.m. in the covered pavilions across the street from the lake.

Bagging food items occurs the Wednesday prior to the last Saturday of the month at 12 noon.

With an anticipated move of collection and storage areas we will have limited space and can accept **ONLY** the following new or gently used clothing items for both men and women:

Socks	T-Shirts	Jeans
Tennis shoes	Underwear (new)	

During winter months, we can accept jackets and sweaters appropriate for homeless.

Thank you to everyone who is currently participating in this much needed ministry.

If your New Year's resolutions include volunteering, please join us! For additional information, you may contact Belinda McClellan at 850 212-0774.

CREATION *care*

CREATE A MOSAIC MASTERPIECE FOR THE GARDEN


January 11, 6:30 – 8:30 pm

Learn how to make a beautiful glass mosaic to be installed in our Mosaic Garden. Friday, January 11. All supplies are provided, RSVP to Cares4Creation@gmail.com.

JOIN US FOR CRAFTY CREATION CARE TUESDAYS

Most Tuesdays, our Creation Care team meets at 10:30 am in room 302 to make reusable bags out of tshirts that we donate to Manna on Meridian for produce bags. We are an intergenerational group that has a lot of fun cutting, sewing, and laughing our way through 200 bags a month! All are welcome, and no experience is required. Email Cara at Cares4Creation@gmail.com to be added to the list.

JANUARY ECO-TIP: PRAY FOR THE EARTH DAILY



**“A prayer
for our
earth”**

All-powerful God,
you are present in the whole universe
and in the smallest of your creatures.
You embrace with your tenderness all that exists.
Pour out upon us the power of your love,
that we may protect life and beauty.
Fill us with peace, that we may live
as brothers and sisters, harming no one.
O God of the poor,
help us to rescue the abandoned
and forgotten of this earth,
so precious in your eyes.
Bring healing to our lives,
that we may protect the world and not prey on it,
that we may sow beauty,
not pollution and destruction.
Touch the hearts
of those who look only for gain
at the expense of the poor and the earth.
Teach us to discover the worth of each thing,
to be filled with awe and contemplation,
to recognize that we are profoundly united
with every creature
as we journey towards your infinite light.
We thank you for being with us each day.
Encourage us, we pray, in our struggle
for justice, love and peace.

— Pope Francis, *Laudato si'*

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

- 1 Tom Fussell, Liane Schrader,
Tanya Taylor
- 2 Margaret Bertolami, Ana Puente,
Sarabella Ronk, Kylea Verheyen
- 3 Oriska Henn
- 4 Mary Barber
- 5 Lisa Askins
- 6 Gene Chick, Cyndi Craig,
Patricia Reynolds
- 8 Margie Cash, Stephanie Corry,
Kevin Cox
- 9 Conner Cherry, Tim Jones,
Jason Pernel
- 10 Larry Barlow, John Benton,
Sharon Geiger, Ani Hatfield,
Henry Merryday, Patrick Peacock,
Leigh Pierce
- 11 Jackie Bowman, Mackie Knight
- 12 Kevin Kline
- 13 Savannah Atwell, Jeff Griffin,
Aubree Ronk
- 14 Mary Ann Braswell
- 16 Barbara Clampett, Christine Hansen,
Ansley Wirth, Delores Young
- 17 Mary Gray
- 19 Rick Flaughner, Bill Schildt
- 20 Angela Groszos, Claude Sellers
- 23 Sophia Brown, Ann Humphrey,
Janet Pickens, Tammy Schubert,
Beth Summers, John Woodward
- 24 Kambea Chan, Tristan St. John
- 25 Betty Blair, Chad Bowen,
Beverly Kinloch, Alison Tully
- 26 Margaret Hardee, Sabrena Watson
- 27 Linda Champion, James Tully
- 28 Jim Allen
- 29 Cameryn Lariscy, Robin McCallister



YOUTH

A WORD FROM YOUR FRIENDLY NEIGHBORHOOD YOUTH DIRECTOR

I hope you all had a wonderful Christmas and a fabulous new year! It's time for setting new goals for the year and new expectations! My goals for the year are:

1. To increase my communication via email and Facebook posts.
2. Have more engagement and fellowship opportunities outside of Sunday nights.
3. Become more organized and intentional about getting closer to God!

I want you thank you all personally for making 2018 a year of growth and maturity as I have taken in new responsibilities and fostered new relationships! Thank you for all that you have done and all that you will do to support me.

Along with many other events, I am excited to say as requested from the youth, ROOTED will be assisting in hurricane relief! Throughout the spring we will take one day mini-mission trips to the Panhandle to assist the recovery from hurricane Michael! More information to come!

UPCOMING EVENTS

YOUTH SKI TRIP RETREAT

January 18-21, 2019

CHILI COOK-OFF

January 27

SUPPORT OUR YOUTH BY VOLUNTEERING!

Invest in our young disciples by giving your time to support this ministry. We are always in need of new volunteers. If you are looking for a valuable, rewarding way of supporting this church, congratulations, you have found us! Please contact Raymond for more information.

STAY CONNECTED

Want to stay "hip" with the youth? Join our ROOTED Saint Paul's Facebook page and sign up for our email list, ROOTED News, on the church website!

YOUTH COUNCIL

If you feel led to serve the youth group in a leadership capacity, consider serving on the Youth Council! Contact Raymond for details.

YOUTH SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sundays @ 9:45 a.m. Room 302

We encourage youth to share freely and to express doubts and questions as well as their beliefs. Our only rule is to show respect for one another. And we ALWAYS have snacks! For details contact one of our amazing teachers, Charlie Guyton, 599-9423, or Meg Guyton, 443-4175.

YOUTH CHOIR

Every Sunday night from 4:30 - 5:15 p.m. our Youth Choir meets in choir room. No experience is necessary and it is a rocking time to worship and praise God through music! Please contact the wonderful Gaye Herndon at gaye@saintpaulsumc.org.

ROOTED SUNDAY NIGHTS!

Every Sunday night from 5:15 - 7:00 p.m. join us in Sanders Hall for fellowship, snack supper, games, and a message of faith. Middle and High small groups are a part of our evening. Bring yourself, bring a friend (or maybe 2), and bring an appetite.

MAKING ROOM UPDATE

Progress continues on Phase One of our MAKING ROOM Project. We did run into two unexpected issues - termite infestation (which is now resolved) and a water intrusion issue that requires additional barriers to be installed to prevent future damage. At our last construction meeting, January 14 was given as a completion date for Phase One. We will keep you posted as we progress in this direction.

Saint Paul's Annual

CHILI COOK-OFF



Sunday, January 27

12 noon

Sanders Hall

\$5 for Adults

\$3 for Children

All profits go toward the youth mission trip.

YOUNG adults

YOUNG ADULTS @ SAINT PAUL'S

Beyond the youth group experience, but not quite setting up play dates for your kids, there's a period of life that still desires community, care, and challenge. The young adult ministry at Saint Paul's UMC seeks to make known the love of Christ in precisely these areas of life. All are welcome who seek to grow as individuals, in community, and by faith.

COLLEGE STUDENTS ARE "YOUNG ADULTS @ SAINT PAUL'S" TOO!!

Are you college-aged or a college student who attends Saint Paul's? Do you know someone who is? Well, guess what? There's a place for you in this ministry!

STAY C-O-N-N-E-C-T-E-D

Of course we're on Facebook! School/work is hectic and life throws you curves, but you can always stay connected with the work and people of the Young Adults @ Saint Paul's via their Facebook page: www.facebook.com/groups/youngadultsatsaintpauls

Also, sign up for the Young Adults @ Saint Paul's e-newsletter through the "Young Adult" section of the church website: www.saintpaulsumc.org.

LOOKING AHEAD

HURRICANE MICHAEL TEAM ONE ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING

Saint Paul's will be sending multiple teams during 2019 into the areas devastated by Hurricane Michael. **Our first week-long team is tentatively scheduled for March 3-9, 2019.** The **organizational meeting** for this trip will be at **12:15 p.m. on January 13, 2019 in Room 300.** All skill levels are welcome. No prior experience is necessary. Come find out details. Look also for Saturday trips beginning in January.

2019 WOMEN'S RETREAT AT SAINT GEORGE ISLAND

February 22 - 24, 2019

Walking with Jesus is the theme for the 2019 Women's Retreat and this year we are really excited to welcome Dr. Latricia Scriven (FAMU Wesley) as our speaker. You will be energized beyond belief by Latricia and her contagious spirit. Make plans now to attend. You can sign up today on our website.

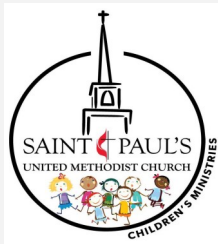
WEEKLY GATHERINGS

- **Tuesday evenings at Red Eye Café** (Midtown), **7:00 - 8:00 p.m.** Come for fun, come for fellowship, come in faith! A wonderful opportunity to get to know the young adults in Saint Paul's on a personal level.
- **Sunday Mornings in January** – Come for discussion and fellowship with other young adults in the church! 9:45 a.m. in room #304. Your thoughts, questions, and passion are welcomed here!

RAISING FUN WHILE WE RAISE FUNDS!

Highlight **5:30 p.m., Saturday, March 2**, on your calendar for our annual International Dinner & Auction. This may be Saint Paul's most fun event of the year! We'll serve a gourmet meal with a Caribbean flair and *and* we'll have an auction of all sorts of wonderful items. That's where *you* come in. We are asking members of our church family to brainstorm a bit about what they can donate for the live and silent auctions. Willing to take a couple of folks fishing on your boat? Do you have computer skills you could share through a set number of tutoring hours? Are you an artist who'd donate one of your works? Are you a kitchen whiz who could prepare a special dinner for a small group? Would you host a children's pool party? Each one of us has some way we can support this *fun*-raiser that's a *fund*-raiser for our sister churches in Cuba and Haiti. Questions? Contact Meg Guyton at 443-4175 or meghguyton@comcast.net.

Save the Date
Saint Paul's Spring Camping Trip
March 22 - 24, 2019
Location: TBD



FAMILIES

SUNDAY MORNINGS FOR KIDS

Healing Families

"God heals the brokenhearted and bandages their wounds."
Psalm 147:3

January 6 - Magi Seek a Healer - Matthew 2:1-12

January 13 - Jesus Heals - Luke 4:38-44

January 20 - Jesus Heals a Young Woman - Mark 5:21-24, 35-43

January 27 - Jesus Heals Ten Men - Luke 17:11-19

MOMMY & ME MUSIC

Music time for infants, toddlers, preschoolers, and the mommies who love them to come together and play together musically. This music class targets developmental milestones through singing, chanting, instrument playing, signing, and movement. Class will be led by Stephany Bryant, a board-certified music therapist. For more information contact Jill Merryday, Director of Children's Ministries in the church office. Classes will be held on every other **Tuesday morning, 9:30 - 10:30 a.m., starting January 8.**

SPARKS WEDNESDAY

Join us this semester beginning **January 9** as we kick off another fun season of SPARKS! Kids from Kindergarten through 5th graders enjoy after school fun, friends and faith as we learn more about Jesus and His Love! Join the team! Nursery care is provided for younger children of our adult volunteers.

MOPS IN JANUARY

Join us for MOPS (Mothers of Preschoolers) **January 10** and **24** for our morning programs, **9:15 - 11:30 a.m.** Mamas with newborns through kindergarten ages are invited to join this wonderful Thursday morning fellowship group!

MESS - MOM'S EVENING SOCIAL SQUAD

Are you interested in joining a MOMS evening group in the new year? We are a group of mamas who get together once a month on the third Thursday evening. Mark your calendars every month... we always have something to do or some place to go! Contact Michelle Fugate or Jill Merryday for more information!

UPCOMING DATE NIGHTS

January 26, February 23, March 30, and April 27

PARENTS: Go ahead and schedule these dates with a KISS! Be sure to register online at the beginning of each month. Enjoy four hours of time to rejuvenate and refresh away from the kids! **4:00 - 8:00 p.m.** More information on the Web site under Children's Ministry.

WHAT IS YOUR MISSION?

All adult Sunday School classes are invited to a **five week Sunday School series in Sanders Hall for February 10 through March 10, 2019.** This series is being offered by your Missions Lay Team and will be facilitated by Charlie Guyton and other team members. We will explore our call to missions, our church's existing mission efforts, how to become involved in existing mission efforts, and what new mission efforts we, individually and as a church, are we being called to address. So far, the Seekers and New Horizons classes are planning to come, but all adult Sunday School classes are invited, as are all adults who are not currently attending classes. Come explore your call to missions.

HOSPITALITY TEAM

One of our top priorities for 2019 is to develop our Hospitality Team. This ministry has huge effects for a small amount of time investment. If you are able to join our Greeters team which is a rotation of people that welcome newcomers to church and other outreach events or if you can help with organizing our team, please contact Peggy Benton in the office. Thank you!

CONGREGATIONAL *care*

CARE LIST

SHORT TERM:

Marlene Brewer, Jo Ellen Brown, Patty Craig, Lynn Gilbert, Nell Kelly, Rod Letchworth, Dana Moore, Joann O'Keefe, Steve and Faye Mayberry, Melody Payton, Bert Palmer, Chuck Pickens, Jay Spencer, Maggie Tatum, Carl Tomberline, Mark Trammell, Melanie Tredick, Bridget Weisbrod, Carol Wortham, inactive members, hurricane survivors and volunteers, Making Room construction workers, and those who lack food and shelter.

LONG TERM:

Jim Allen, Gladys Awbrey, Betty Blair, Terry and Carol Broadway, Horace Caton, Richard Combs, Lorrie Corry, Ivy Lee Daniel, Norma DeRuyter, Margaret Farnell, Pat Giglio, Nancy Graham, Oriska Henn, Ralph Hook, Bill Jones, Robert Kennedy, Dottie Melton, Jack Pelham, Andy Prescott, Ruth Riley, Audrey Robbins, Dot Roberts, Terry Shoffstall, Ben and Betty Spivey, Norma and Pam Strickland, Doris and Dick Sublette, Jim Thompson, Ruth Ann Wynn, Alzheimer's Project, lay teams, pastors, homebound members, unspoken requests, those serving in the military, victims of the fires in California, victims of Hurricane Michael, Our partner churches: Yaguaramas Methodist Church, Cuba, Soisson Church, Hati, Manna on Meridian, Soul Food, ECHO.

OUR MEN AND WOMEN IN THE MILITARY

US AIR FORCE: Scott Baumgardner, Robert Berman, Steven Boles, John Bray, Robert Byford, Cierra Carlan, Dane and Becky Collette, Jake Hoogerheyde, Nathan Kraft, Nicole Parker, Noah Shoffstall

US AIR FORCE ACADEMY: Christin Burrows

US AIR FORCE NAT'L GUARD: Andrew Bennett, Micah Goodpasture

US ARMY: Rob Gricius, Burt Newman, Alan Sheehan, Tim Strickland, Lucas Trammell, Caleb Weand, Dallas Wurst

US ARMY NAT'L GUARD: Lance Moore, Russ Tucker

US ARMY RESERVE: Page M. Baldwin

US MARINES: Daniel Aulph, Jett Johnson, Martin Kuhnle

US NAVY: Sean Allen, Michael Scherdin, Scott Thoroman

WEDNESDAY MENU FOR JANUARY

1/2 - no Wednesday night dinner

1/9 - Spaghetti and meat sauce

1/16 - Pork Chops Italiano, scalloped potatoes

1/23 - Paprika Parmesan Chicken, rice pilaf

1/30 - Asian

GATHERING TO PRAY

Everyone is invited to meet together **8:00 a.m. Wednesdays** in the Church Office to pray for thirty minutes for the needs of our church and community. If you have a prayer request, this group would be honored to pray for you.

OUR STAFF AND EMAILS

Senior Pastor

Rev. Dr. Kandace Brooks
kandace@saintpaulsumc.org

Pastor of Congregational Care

Rev. David Gill
david@saintpaulsumc.org

Church Administrator

Laurie Batten
laurie@saintpaulsumc.org

Publishing Specialist

Linda Fletcher
linda@saintpaulsumc.org

Facilities Coordinator

Stephanie Corry
stephaniecorry@saintpaulsumc.org

Director of Children's Ministries

Jill Merryday
jill@saintpaulsumc.org

Children's Ministries Assistant/

Ministry Coordinator

Peggy Benton
peggy@saintpaulsumc.org

Nursery Director

Beth Wilde
beth@saintpaulsumc.org

Music Performance Associate

Gaye Herndon
musicdir@bellsouth.net

Adult Choir Director

Cynthia Prescott
cynpres@comcast.net

Associate Director of Youth Ministry

Raymond Pandley, II
raymond@saintpaulsumc.org

SPARKS Choir Director

Stephany Bryant

Kitchen Coordinator

Betsy Gingery

Sexton

Simon Webb

Sexton Assistant

Odis Williams

Membership Secretary

Mary Ann Brown
membership@saintpaulsumc.org

Church Treasurer

Timothy Scott

OUR BISHOP

Rev. Dr. Kenneth H. Carter, Jr.

OUR DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT

Rev. Durwood Foshee

OUR MISSIONARIES

Delbert and Sandy Groves,
Zambia

The Ogdens, East Asia



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Tallahassee, Florida 32303

www.saintpaulsumc.org

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

SUNDAY MORNINGS AT SAINT PAUL'S

8:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m. Worship

9:45 a.m. Sunday School for all ages

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Thursday 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Friday - Closed

Find us on  at SaintPaulsUnitedMethodistChurch

MUSIC

at Saint Paul's

Preschool and Toddler Music Groups

Our Preschool and Toddler Music Groups will resume meeting **Wednesday, January 9, 5:30 - 5:55 p.m.** for developmentally appropriate music-based activities including singing, playing instruments, and creative movement. The Preschool Group is for ages PreK 3-4, and our Toddler Group (Parent and Me) is for those under the age of three.

SPARKS Choir (Grades K-5)

SPARKS Choir will resume meeting on **January 9**. We'll be starting work on our musical for the Spring.

Rooted Youth Choir

Our Youth Choir for Grades 6-12 invites all youth to join us on **Sunday afternoons at 4:30 p.m.** in the choir room as we resume our rehearsal schedule on **January 6**. We'll be working on new music to share in worship and looking forward to our trip to Music Camp, June 9-14. Mark your calendars for this very special opportunity!

Handbell Choir

The Handbell Choir will resume rehearsals on **Sunday, January 6, 6:00 p.m.** We're looking forward to participating in the area Winter Ring at Thomasville FUMC on the weekend of February 22-23.

Worship Band

The Worship Band will be playing for the 8:30 a.m. service on **January 13**. Contact Gaye Herndon (gaye@saintpauls.org) if you are interested in serving in this special area of music/worship ministry.