

A FUTURE WITH  
*Hope*



University Gathering  
United Methodist Church

*For surely I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope. — Jeremiah 29:11 (NRSVUE)*

These words of scripture were addressed to a people exiled, while trying to navigate new realities. Most of us haven't literally been driven from our homes or country, but I suspect these words from Jeremiah have resonance. Our lives are filled with change. Nonetheless, God assures us of a future filled with hope. On the path of discipleship, we learn that we are active participants with God in creating that future together!



As your pastor, I give thanks for the long and faithful legacy of this congregation and all the saints of our past, which have brought us to this time and place in our history. And together, we will continue to create and sustain a hopeful, joyful, loving and just community, committed to nothing less than changing our city and our world for the better.

If University Gathering UMC has made a difference in your life in the past, then I invite you to prayerfully consider giving toward our collective future! Your financial pledge allows us to create a responsible budget, build inclusive community in the way of Jesus, engage with new people in meaningful ways, and further our legacy of faith and social justice with our neighbors. I hope you will join us Sundays in November, in-person or online, for our pledge campaign series, as together we envision, cultivate, and celebrate a future with hope.

Alongside you,

Rev. Paul Ortiz





“I believe in and support U Gathering because this community lives out its mission and values with compassion and integrity. I always feel valued and uplifted here and know that newcomers and visitors will, too.”

~**Erica Mattingly**



The role of music in worship is to create an environment where people encounter God in an eternal, life-altering way. We seek to use music and the arts to create meaningful spiritual experiences, sharing clear, relevant, and lasting messages. The music is meant to strengthen the worship message. If you are able, we ask that you consider increasing your pledge to help continue the piano accompaniment during worship.

~**Ben Fowler, Worship Leader**

I am a member of University Gathering because it is an inclusive spiritual community. I am also drawn to the Gathering’s social justice and social outreach missions.

~**Glennys Young**



## **OUR HUMAN NEEDS APPEAL MAKES A DIFFERENCE IN SO MANY LIVES**

For almost 60 years the Human Needs Appeal has distributed funds from our members’ pledges to organizations that work to solve social justice problems and serve the needs of people in the University District and beyond. In 2024 the Human Needs Appeal has aided the following agencies:

Country Doctor Free Teen Clinic, Elizabeth Gregory Home, People’s Harm Reduction Alliance, Teen Feed, United Churches Emergency Fund, University District Food Bank  
Please help us continue our tradition of reaching beyond our church boundaries to those in need. Please consider a generous pledge to the Human Needs Appeal.