

COMMITTEES

PURPOSES & DESCRIPTIONS

ADOPT-A-SCHOOL

The Adopt-A-School ministry at neighboring Idlewild Elementary School provides weekly tutors for kindergarten through 5th grade, and weekly kindergarten readers; hosts the 5th grade completion ceremony in the spring; hosts a teacher appreciation luncheon in the Fall; provides new books for children at Christmas; leads enrichment activities in the spring; and strives to broaden student community experience by supporting the teachers, staff, PTO, and families of the school.

ADULT MINISTRY

Oversees ministry to adults, including church school and courses through the week; develops special fellowship and educational programs in conjunction with other committees; coordinates intergenerational programs with youth and children's ministries as needed; assists church school leaders in scheduling and planning curriculum.

BUDGET AND FINANCE

Oversees the church's finances; prepares the annual budget and recommends to the Session for approval; responsible for oversight of the annual audit and reports results to the Session.

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

Subcommittee: Nursery

Believing in the importance of nurturing a growing relationship with Jesus Christ and God's people, we will with God's help, guide children to know, love and serve the Lord by providing a solid foundation of Biblical understanding with opportunities to apply spiritual truths at home, school, and play.

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CHURCH IN THE WORLD

Includes: Backpacks, Garden, Clean Water, Mission Support, Children's Outreach, Cuba, VBS-Mexico, Coffee, Alternative Market

Focuses on what it means to say, "We are the Church Together." The mission is to discern and live out the goal of being one church, living compassion, peace, and justice for all God's creation that Idlewild may faithfully seek justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with our God.

COLUMBARIUM

Oversees ongoing maintenance, arranges for sale of spaces, and helps families plan interment. They work compassionately with families during their time of loss so their loved ones can be appropriately interred.

COMMUNITY SUPPORT

Heeding God's call to minister to the needs of people, Community Support offers annual funding to community ministries that provide compassionate services to assist all of God's children. Each year this committee accepts and reviews grant requests from local non-profit organizations.

CONGREGATIONAL CARE

Subcommittees: Blood Drive, Care Partners, ChristCare, Ministries of Compassion, Prayer Ministry, Wellness

Committee members aid the ministerial staff in giving support to individual members during times of difficulty such as illness, aging or grief. This support includes delivering flowers and/or prayer shawls to hospitalized or homebound members, providing meals on a short-term basis, sending birthday cards to seniors as well as get-well cards and personal notes to those in need, sponsoring a blood drive, and maintaining a medical equipment closet.

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EVANGELISM

Subcommittees: Festival, Greeters

Evangelism is a reforming committee that works to share God's victory in Christ over the powers of darkness and evil through word and deed with intentional programming. Programming aspects are directed to children becoming adults; those who are members (insiders) and those who are visiting (outsiders). Evangelism works to attract and welcome visitors to all Sunday services; create programs that help to equip members, both young and old, to articulate their faith in Christ and invite others into a life of faith.

FOOD SERVICE

The mission of Food Service is to fill nutritional and spiritual needs of the church and its community. The committee and church staff plan and prepare congregational meals, weekly More Than A Meal dinners and special events, as well as coffee and snacks for hundreds of meetings and classes each year.

HOSPITALITY

Members strive to care for Sunday morning guests from the street. Idlewild Church is a safe place for many people who have no home or family. Sunday morning hospitality may involve making them feel welcomed in worship, answering questions, and giving contact information for further assistance. A hospitality member may even help someone in finding assistance for healthcare or other issues.

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HOUSE AND PROPERTIES

Subcommittees: Sound, Technology

Oversees the maintenance, repair and renovation of all of the church's buildings, grounds, vehicles (except those vehicles used primarily by the Children's Center), fixtures and equipment, ensures vendors are well acquainted and adhere to Idlewild's goals and objectives for projects, negotiates maintenance contracts as needed. The Sound subcommittee oversees all audio-visual needs for worship services. Technology manages computer-related needs for both the staff and the congregation.

IDLEWILD CHILDREN'S CENTER BOARD

Subcommittees: Children's Center, Kindergarten

Oversees both the Children's Center and Kindergarten, which provide high quality educational enrichment for children and families. Our school, child care and associated programs operate in a nurturing Christian setting, and focus on: a joy of learning, social, cognitive, language and motor skills; and respect for self and others. We stress inclusion in a multi-cultural environment including socioeconomic, religious, ethnic and racial diversity.

LIBRARY, RESOURCES & ARCHIVES

Maintains and operates the church library; promotes the use of the library; organizes and maintains the church archives to preserve a written record of the church's history; and keep a database and card catalog,

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MORE THAN A MEAL

Subcommittees: More Than Art

Supervises More Than A Meal (MTAM) and More Than Art. MTAM offers physical and spiritual nourishment to people of our Midtown community. Knowing that all God's children are called to be brothers and sisters, the church strives to treat our homeless visitors as cherished guests with high-quality meals, dinner music, fellowship, a lending library, and prayers of the people.

NEW MEMBER WELCOMING

Meet about three times a year to secure planning for welcoming new members into the life and ministry of Idlewild and to work together with the Evangelism Committee.

NOMINATIONS

Places in nomination before the congregation the names of members to serve as deacons, elders and trustees, and members of all search committees; and works with the Coordinating Forum to identify persons to serve as Ministry Unit Chairs and as chairs and members of the various standing committees of the church.

PERSONNEL

Oversees employment practices and policies for program staff and support staff of the church; delegates a representative to each staff member's annual review process; and renders confidential advice to staff on a broad range of staffing and employment matters.

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RECREATION

Programs: Basketball, Soccer, Baseball, Flag Football, Kickball, Fat Tuesday, Halloween Carnival, Sole to Soul 5K, Discover Memphis, Outdoor Challenge, Easter Egg Hunt, Kids Yoga, Girl Scouts, Gymnastics, Cheerleading, NaCoMe, OWLS, Pottery, Dance Groups, Ceramics

The recreation ministry demonstrates the love of Christ through organized recreation by providing positive role models, capable leadership, safe facilities, and in inclusive spirit. Idlewild's program is still one of the largest integrated church/community programs in the city. We continually try to nurture participants from the church as well as the community at large.

STEWARDSHIP

Subcommittee: Endowment

Oversees the stewardship of the church, develops and conducts the annual stewardship campaign, educates the congregation on stewardship issues, canvasses new members. The Endowment subcommittee educates the congregation of the importance of building the endowment for long term financial security of the church, encourages donations to the endowment, provides deferred giving information to the congregation, works with trustees to administer the funds for the purposes approved by the Session.

USE OF FACILITIES

Receives and evaluates requests for use of Idlewild facilities for programs or events not sponsored by the church or the Presbytery of the Mid-South; reports use of facilities requests to Session with recommendations for acceptance or denial of all such requests.

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USHER

Assures that sufficient ushers are present for all worship services and that ushers are apprised of their responsibilities to greet, welcome and assist persons before, during and after worship; receives and oversees safe delivery of all offerings received during worship services; and assists in putting the sanctuary in order.

VISION COUNCIL

Subcommittee: Project Steering

Observes changing trends impacting the life and ministry of Idlewild Presbyterian Church, assesses current and anticipates future needs of the church and congregation through studying and analyzing church demographics and issues in the local and global community, leads the officers in evaluating and navigating Idlewild's mission; leads in establishment of long range goals, objectives, and action plans for effective and comprehensive strategic planning for the church.

The Project Steering subcommittee studies the future needs of the church so a capital campaign can be launched when economically feasible; is responsible for developing the church's case statement which articulates the priorities for the church and the rationale for support; works closely with Session to define when and how to best move forward.

WELL (WEDNESDAY EVENINGS LIVING & LEARNING)

Provides nurture and fellowship for children, youth and adults through Wednesday programs offering wholesome meals, varied selection of topical education programs, and opportunities for intergenerational recreation and conversation. The committee strives to be responsive to the needs and interests of congregants of all ages. The program draws from the resources of multiple program areas, including the Worship and Music, Food Service, Recreation, Children, Youth and Adult Ministry Committees, as well as the Mission and Outreach Ministry Unit.

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WORSHIP AND MUSIC

Subcommittees: Carillon, Liturgical Arts, Organ, Paraments, Wedding

Plans and implements Lord's Day worship and music ministries and seasonal worship and music opportunities for the congregation; recommends to the Session policies governing funeral and wedding services and other requested worship services; strives to be sensitive to changing worship and music needs of the congregation and to meet these needs while being faithful to our Reformed tradition of worship. It includes several subcommittees involved in worship, including wedding assistants who coordinate the process with couples, ministers and staff.

YOUTH MINISTRY

Provides a place where youth feel welcomed and accepted, and helps young people grow in their relationship with God in a safe and loving environment. Our youth build relationships with Christ and with each other and through education, fellowship, mission and worship. There are two groups: QUEST for 7th-8th graders and BASIC for 9th-12th graders. Many of our youth serve on committees and as session and diaconate officers, as an integral part of the church.

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