

Mustang Methodist Church

Mustang, Oklahoma
Ministry Setting Profile

THE CHURCH

Mustang Methodist Church is a vibrant church in a growing community with a rich history and an even brighter future.

The church voted in May to disaffiliate from the United Methodist Church, and this is on schedule to be made official on October 27, 2023. Following disaffiliation, Mustang Methodist will operate as an independent church, and they are committed to maintaining their traditional Wesleyan heritage and theology. At some point in the future the church may consider joining the Global Methodist Church or another denomination, but there are no immediate plans to pursue this. This is their first time hiring their own Lead Pastor.

Mustang Methodist Church has two worship services each Sunday morning: a casual traditional service at 8:30 AM and a modern service at 11:00 AM. The combined average worship attendance is around 250 people worshipping in-person. Services are also live-streamed and available on YouTube. There is a Sunday School hour for all ages at 9:45 AM.

The church's annual budget is over \$800,000.

The current staff consists of 6 full-time positions and 13 part-time; these numbers include part-time staff for the Growing God's Children Preschool.

Each Sunday Mustang Methodist Church professes its faith through the Apostle's Creed and shares the following core values as a congregation:

1. **We are shaped and formed by God and believe that *The Bible Matters Here*.** The congregation takes the scriptures seriously. The scripture is clearly preached during worship, taught during Sunday School and Wednesday Nights, and encouraged daily in the homes of the church members.
2. **We experience the amazing love of Jesus and want you to *Follow Jesus Here*.** Jesus is at the center of our experience together. Jesus is at the center of our worship, our gatherings, and our mission. To follow Jesus here means that we go out into the world and meet the needs of others. Our church has many ways of serving our community including delivering meals to homebound members, putting on an annual Serve Day with over 150 people serving, and being supportive of missions in our community and across the world.

3. **We are shaped and formed by God and believe that *Grace Grows Here*.** Mustang Methodist Church is committed to being a Wesleyan witness in our community. We are all always a work in gracious progress. We are a place where people experience the prevenient grace of God, celebrating God's initiative and love towards each of us, through evangelistic endeavors such as Upward Basketball, Wednesday Night Student Ministry, and the Embrace Ministry. We want people to experience the justifying grace of God, as there are regular opportunities for others to make a commitment of faith and a decision to follow Jesus. We want people to experience the sanctifying grace of God, including through our Awakening Weekends and other opportunities to continue to grow in our faith.
4. **We love you and want to journey with you because *You Belong Here*.** You don't belong because of what you have accomplished or what you believe. You belong because God loves you and Mustang Methodist Church shares that love with you. The church meets people where they are, as they are. One example of this is our Embrace Ministry which reaches families who have individuals with special needs. We recognize that we are stronger through our diversity of needs, thoughts, backgrounds, and experiences.

There is a committed, gifted and multi-generational group of laypersons in leadership at Mustang Methodist who are excited to partner with their new Pastor to reach new people in their community.

Although the hiring process will not be driven by the calendar, ideally the leadership would like to have their new Pastor on board by the end of October 2023.

THE COMMUNITY

Mustang, OK is a vibrant and growing community situated just outside of Oklahoma City. With excellent schools and a strong job market, Mustang is an attractive option for families and professionals alike.

Mustang is situated in Canadian County, the fastest-growing county in Oklahoma.

The cost of living in Mustang is relatively low compared to the US average. Mustang has seen the job market increase by 2.4% over the last year. Future job growth over the next ten years is projected to be 35.2%, which is higher than the US average of 33.5%.

In the OKC metro, Oklahoma's state government, the University of Oklahoma in nearby Norman, Integris Health and the Mike Monroney Aeronautical Center are among the metro area's largest employers.

Mustang has a small-town feel with big-city benefits. Located in the fastest-growing county in Oklahoma, Mustang continues to maintain its commitment to being a great community to raise a family and be connected.

The median age of Mustang residents is 38 and the median household income is \$81,532.

The heart of Mustang is the school district, which encompasses not only the 12 square miles of Mustang but 72 total square miles in the county. As one of the largest single High School districts in the state, Mustang has plenty of opportunities for students to succeed including aviation, athletics, and performing arts. The new Performance Arts Center has a 1,500-seat performance hall and various other spaces utilized by the school and community throughout the year.

Every September Mustang hosts Western Days to celebrate its heritage. The Mustang Methodist Church facility is at the center of the parade route. The 4th of July celebration is also something to be experienced in Mustang.

Located less than a half mile north of the church facility is Wild Horse Park, the third most visited public park in Oklahoma.

A relatively easy drive can take you to downtown Oklahoma City in 25 minutes to experience the best of what this vibrant and growing city has to offer—from Bricktown to the Oklahoma City Thunder to the OKC Memorial Museum and much more.

There are three main types of people who choose to live in Mustang. Many people who grew up here decided that this is where they want to raise their family. Mustang has been home to them, and they want it to continue to be. Another group of people are families who choose to live in Mustang for the great schools, the close-knit community, and the short drive to OKC. A third group are those who grew up in Western or Southwestern Oklahoma, but now work in Oklahoma City. While they work in the city, they are looking for that small-town feel (and maybe some acreage as well).

There are positive and intentional relationships between the Mustang Schools, the City Council, the Chamber of Commerce, and the Mustang Police and Fire Departments. All those entities work together for the good of the community.

Every Tuesday is Positive Posse where these community leaders and others (including church leaders) gather to share about what is going on in the community and how we can work together for Mustang.

MUSTANG METHODIST CHURCH'S NEXT LEAD PASTOR

The following are characteristics that are important for the next lead pastor to exhibit:

- A discerned call from God to be in ministry in Mustang; it is a high value that the Pastor live in and be vitally engaged in the life of the Mustang community
- Core spiritual gifts and competencies: preaching and worship leadership, spiritual maturity, strategic and visionary leadership, initiative, and personal resilience
- A traditional Wesleyan theology
- A passion for growing through reaching new people for Jesus Christ
- A Pastor who is socially conservative is preferred

Although the leadership is committed to taking whatever time is necessary to find and hire the right person, ideally the church would like to have the new Pastor in place at the end of October 2023.

Logistical issues, specific timelines and a compensation package will be discussed as the search process moves along.

To apply or to receive more information, please contact Jim Chandler at jimc@churchdifferencemakers.com or by phone at 804.356.1369.