

# **Overview of Styles of Worship Report**

## **LUMC – Gatekeepers**

### **May 24<sup>th</sup> 2008**

The Gatekeepers group of Leadership UMC is honored to present this report examining worship within the churches of the North Georgia Conference. Our group has compiled statistics which document the forms of worship as found within our conference. The project includes both formal reporting data and personal experiences of group members.

The group firmly believes that in today's culture that change is the most constant element in family lives. The church has been very slow to adapt the changes that the culture has found to be the norm in the work and school environments. This is especially evident in the styles of worship which is found in the UM churches within our conference. The failure to adapt is not necessarily a problem in the style of worship as much as it is in adopting and adapting to the available resources to aid congregations in speaking to as many people as possible.

This report focuses on the two most common styles of worship (contemporary and traditional) which are often considered opposites. Our group has attempted to identify advantages and challenges in both of the worship styles. We have also attempted to identify key components to successful worship that a church feels that best suits their congregation and identify scriptural references as a base for all worship.

Our ultimate hope is to encourage readers to identify that it is not necessarily the style of worship as much as that every church needs to embrace their local style of worship. Then take advantage of current resources which will best meet the needs of the outside culture and community where the church ministers.