

Gayle Grace is the Director of Music Ministries here at St. Paul's United Methodist Church. She directs the Sanctuary Choir, Exalt! (a small vocal ensemble), and our Children's Choir. Besides her many other music duties at St. Paul's, she is an Instructor of Music at Pikes Peak Community College where she is the Chair of the Voice Department. Ms. Grace has performed operatic and oratorio solos with the Friends University Community Orchestra, the Grand Junction Symphony, the Grand Junction Chamber Orchestra, the Colorado Springs Chamber Orchestra, and the Colorado Springs Philharmonic Orchestra in conjunction with the Colorado Springs Chorale under the direction of Mr. Donald Jenkins. She received her Bachelor of Music Education degree with vocal emphasis from Friends University in Wichita, Kansas, and earned her Master of Arts in Vocal Pedagogy from Regis University, Denver, Colorado, in 2013. Gayle has been the Music Director/Conductor for many presentations at the Fine Arts Center in Colorado Springs including *The Pirates of Penzance*, *Cinderella*, *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum*, *Man of La Mancha*, *A Chorus Line*, *Little Shop of Horrors*, *Oklahoma*, and *Nunsense* as well as performing on their stage – her last role as the Beggar Woman in the FAC's first production of *Sweeney Todd*. Ms. Grace has performed the soprano solos in Haydn's *Creation*, Dvorak's *Te Deum*, Handel's *Messiah*, and Schubert's *Mass in G*. In 2004, Gayle was chosen by Sir David Willcocks to sing the soprano solos in Dvorak's *Te Deum* at the International Church Music Festival in Coventry, England, with a 400-voice choir and orchestra.

Gayle founded her own Praise Band that traveled to churches and para-church ministries, organized, directed and sang in a six-voice women's ensemble called "Sotto Voce", recorded and traveled singing her religious duet album, was Minister of Music in many churches and denominations, was a weekly soloist and section leader for several church choirs, taught public school and college music, and is a licensed minister with the Disciples of Christ Church.

Gayle has two grown daughters, one wonderful son-in-law, and four grandchildren who are the light of her life. When she is not serving St. Paul's or teaching, she divides her time between Castle Rock, San Diego and gardening in her back yard. Oh yes, and she has two chubby short legged dogs that she likes to take on walks.

In Gayle's own words, "Music is life and my life has been music. There is no better place to make music than in the Lord's house, with God's people. I am forever grateful that God called me to serve at St. Paul's United Methodist Church."