



Central E-Link

*News, Resources & Opportunities to Energize & Equip
Church Leaders of the Central Texas Conference*

April 14, 2010

Welcome! This is the conference's weekly update to church leaders — lay and clergy. Articles/requests should be submitted to Carolyn@ctcumc.org by **12 noon Tuesday** in order to be e-mailed on Wednesday. Articles should be brief and include active links to websites or contact persons for details. To add a colleague or church member to *E-Link's* weekly distribution, send their addresses to susan@ctcumc.org.

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See quick links under "Resources" for more news and resources

News Briefs — The Conference

Bishop Lowry Sends Downloadable Message for World Malaria Day — April 25

World Malaria Day on Sunday, April 25, is the kickoff for the UMC's "Imagine No Malaria" initiative, which also has been designated as our 2010 CTC Annual Conference offering. Our conference raised \$135,276 with the Nothing But Nets Annual Conference offering in 2007, resulting in 13,527 bed nets now providing protective coverage for families in Africa! Imagine No Malaria is the next step in the goal of ending suffering and death from this preventable disease. It continues to include bed nets, but expands into other areas of prevention, treatment, education, and communicating life-saving information. Our conference's minimum goal with the 2010 Annual Conference offering is the equivalent of \$1 for every member of this conference — about \$164,000. **Bishop Lowry has recorded a 4:57-minute video that he is asking all pastors to show in worship on April 25. This downloadable Imagine No Malaria video clip and script for those without a/v capability are under the "Imagine No Malaria" banner on the conference website at www.ctcumc.org.** The video is in zip format, so local churches will need to unzip and play on a computer in a media program of their choice (Quicktime, Windows, Windows Media Player, iTunes, etc.). Some churches may have a program to convert it to a DVD file.

What Is Your Church Doing for World Malaria Day (April 25)?

The UMC is encouraging our churches to participate in this special initiative as part of a unified action for World Malaria Day. Directions and ideas for local church and youth groups are available online at www.ImagineNoMalaria.com. **Members of St. Stephen UMC in Arlington will participate in service projects April 24 and canvas their neighborhood on April 25 with information on how to eliminate mosquitoes right here in our own communities. Since Feb. 21, members of Red Oak UMC have been bringing their \$1 bills to the altar each Sunday and spending a few moments at the altar in prayer for those who are suffering and dying from malaria. Their 10-week commitment collection ends on Sunday, April 25, World Malaria Day.** What is your church or youth group planning to do? If you would like to share your activities with others, please send a description to Carolyn Stephens at Carolyn@ctcumc.org and register your activity with the UMC at <http://rethinkchurch.org/changetheworld>. For Imagine No Malaria information and downloadable resources, please visit http://www.umc.org/site/c.lwL4KnN1LtH/b.5554239/k.31EB/Imagine_No_Malaria_a_ministry_to_e

[eliminate malaria in Africa by 2015.htm](#). Check out what others are doing on INM's Facebook page at <http://www.facebook.com/umclImagineNoMalaria>.

Online Registration for 2010 Annual Conference

Online registration for the 2010 Annual Conference **will begin April 19**. [Click on the "Annual Conference" banner at www.ctcumc.org for registration and other links.] The form has been streamlined this year and is divided into separate clergy and lay categories for clarity. Registering online means that upon arrival at Will Rogers Memorial Center on Monday, June 7, you may proceed directly to your seat within your district's section. Your nametag and materials will be at your table. If you do not register online, you will need to stop at the Treasurer's Office in the Silver Spur Room and fill out a registration card in order to receive your nametag and materials. You are strongly urged to register online to avoid standing in line at Annual Conference. **The deadline to register is May 16. Remember, the deadline to reserve a hotel room at the special rate is May 17.**

GBGM Missionary Speaking Schedule in CTC — April 20-May 13

Dr. Christine Hena, GBGM missionary to Kazakhstan, will be itinerating in the Central Texas Conference and sharing her experiences as a physician in this remote area. Please feel free to join any of these scheduled visits:

4/20	10 a.m.	Arborlawn UMC, Fort Worth
4/21	6:30 p.m.	Newcastle UMC
4/22	6:30 p.m.	King Memorial UMC, Whitney
4/24	2 p.m.	Tenth Street UMC, Taylor
4/25	8:30, 9:45, 11 a.m.	Acton UMC, Granbury
4/25	6 p.m.	Ferris Heights UMC (new to schedule)
5/3	6 p.m.	FUMC Olney
5/5	6 p.m.	FUMC Crawford
5/8	12 noon	FUMC Alvarado
5/9	11 a.m.	FUMC Stephenville
	7 p.m.	FUMC Mansfield
5/10	7 p.m.	Ferris UMC
5/11	10:15 a.m.	Good Shepherd UMC, Arlington
	3 p.m.	FUMC McGregor
	6 p.m.	Woodway UMC, Waco
5/12	5:30 p.m.	FUMC Azle
5/13	7 p.m.	St. John the Apostle, Arlington

For more information, please contact Dawne McAlpin at 817-326-4242.

Native American Ministries Sunday — April 18

Without help from Native American Ministries Sunday, Ray deZafra never would have found his way to the Third Sunday Native American Fellowship. For the first time in his life, the Potawatomi Indian feels that he belongs, not just to a tribe, but also to a community of Christians. The offering on this Special Sunday educates Native American seminarians, plants Native American churches and cultivates Native American outreach to seekers like Ray. Local churches may call 888- 346-3862 to order envelopes and other resources to participate in this churchwide offering. They will be sent at no cost to your church! Find more at <http://www.umcgiving.org/specialsundays>. (See also information scholarships for Native American students under "News Briefs-The Denomination.")

Installation Service for Carol Woods — April 18

Carol Woods will be installed at the Brownwood District superintendent at 5 p.m. Sunday, April 18, at First UMC in Brownwood (2500 11th St., Brownwood). A welcome reception with refreshments will follow the installation service.

Retirement Celebration for Connally Dugger — April 24

The Mid-Cities Superintendency Committee extends an open invitation to a retirement celebration

honoring the 47 years in ministry of Connally Dugger and his wife, Carlene, from 2 to 4 p.m. Saturday, April 24, at First UMC, Arlington (313 N. Center St., Arlington 76011). The program begins at 2 p.m. Cards and notes of remembrance are welcome.

Mother's Day/Wesleyan Homes Benevolent Fund — May 1

Mother's Day is the time when many congregations faithfully receive the special Wesleyan Homes' Benevolent Fund offering. "Today, we need your help to grow the number of congregations who tell this compelling story of the compassionate assistance to senior adults in financial need," states Dan Bonner, vice president for development at Wesleyan Homes. "Every nickel of every gift goes directly to supplement a senior's living at the new Georgetown campus, Wesleyan at Estrella with 124 apartments for independent living and coming in late 2010 60 apartments for assisted living, all eligible for need-based Benevolent Fund support. Pastors will be receiving special bulletin inserts and sermon illustrators for use in worship on Mother's Day unless they have indicated they will not be needed. For more information, contact Dan Bonner at dbonner@wesleyanhomes.org or 512-876-9145.

Annual Conference Business, Award Nominations & Other Information — June 6-9

Due to the potential lengthiness of Annual Conference information, it will be covered starting on the conference website (www.ctcumc.org) under the heading "2010 Annual Conference." Please check the deadlines for scholarship applications and award nominations (received to date) at the end of this *E-Link*.

CTC Update on Haiti Relief

From Disaster Response Task Force Chair Laraine Waughtal: The situation in Haiti continues to be a difficult struggle. And the people of the UMC continue to respond to the need in Haiti. Because so much of the population is living outdoors due to the loss of homes and the continued fear of aftershocks, new problems are developing in the country. Many babies are now being born out on the streets at a great risk for the loss of life due to the unsanitary conditions. Birthing Kits, which cost about \$8 each to assemble, and Layette Kits, which cost about \$35 each, are desperately needed. The Birthing Kits provide safe and sanitary ways for women to delivery babies who do not immediate have access to medical care. The Layette Kits contain those items first needed for the newborn, such as receiving blanket, cloth diapers, newborn outfits and more. For church groups assembling these kits, please do not forget to include your \$1 for the shipping of each kit. Where possible, please have your church gather the individual dollars and write one check made out to the CTC and "Relief Supplies" on the memo line to be turned in at the collection site. The Conference Disaster Response Task force is asking for churches to collect Layette Kits and Birthing Kits (the content list is online at <http://sagerbrown.org/>). **Austin Avenue UMC in Waco has agreed to be our collection point to the south and all kits should be taken there by April 29. Bethel UMC in Weatherford will be the northern collection point. They request that you bring your kits to them Saturday, May 1, between 9 a.m. and noon.** The conference has a team going to Sager Brown and will be taking these kits directly to the depot. Let's have another great response from the CTC like we did with our Health Kits and let the people of Haiti know how much we care. If you have questions, contact Jennifer Bellamy at 817-877-5222 or Laraine Waughtal at 940-564-6494. Please pack your kits in boxes and mark on the outside of the box the count for each type of kit.

Have You or Someone You Know Been a Victim of Crime? — April 18

Has someone in your church been a victim of crime? You may not know because some people never tell anyone. Others may have family members or neighbors who were victims and wish they knew how to offer healing and hope but are trying to protect their loved one or friend's identity. That is why it is important to let our congregations know that there is a service each year that has brought great comfort to such persons. **A Community Interfaith Worship Service of Help, Hope and Healing for Crime Victims, their families & friends, and the community will be held at 3 p.m. Sunday, April 18, at The Garden Community Center of Goodwill Industries (4005 Campus Drive, Fort Worth).** Details at www.crimevictimsCouncil.org

Faithfully Fit Forever Leader Training — April 24

The CTC Health & Wellness Task Force is sponsoring Faithfully Fit Forever Leader Training at 9 a.m.-1 p.m. April 24 at Christ UMC (3301 Sycamore School Road, Fort Worth 76123). Faithfully Fit Forever is a non-profit, cooperative community health program created by MeritCare Hospital Parish Nursing and Cardiac Rehab staff. It attempts to eliminate the barriers that keep people from participating in exercise and health enhancing behaviors. The \$75 cost includes 16 weeks of programming to get you started, a training manual, educational materials/references, devotional resources and exercise leadership video. Details: (www.ctcumc.org) under health and wellness.

Black Church Convocation — April 30-May 1

Connecting People in the Body of Christ will be the focus of the Black Church Convocation April 30-May 1 at Glen Lake Camp & Retreat Center in Glen Rose. A project of the CTC Outreach Mission Council Urban Ministries Committee, will feature Jack C. Gause (St. Peter's UMC, Austin) in a worship lab on using technology in worship and four workshops on finding connection: Through a Clear Sense of Mission, Through Technology, Through Small Groups, Through Ministry with Children & Youth. For more details, visit the conference website at http://ct.brickriver.com/files/oFiles_Library_XZXLCZ/Black_Church_Convocation_R4X3JD5P.PDF or contact Carol Gibson at 817-336-2117.

Who Done It Benefits TCRJC — May 15

The Tarrant County Restorative Justice Center (TCRJC) will host a who-done-it play titled "Who Murdered the Ministry?" by Cathy Harmon. The performances will occur on May 15 at 12 noon and again at 7 p.m. at the Life Today International Studio (located at 1801 W. Euless Blvd. Euless 76040). A silent auction will occur proceeding each performance and the proceeds will benefit the "Home of Greater Joy," a justice ministry of TCRJC. For tickets or more information contact Penny Yaites at 817-719-5978. Tickets are \$10/\$12 at the door.

Red Bird Mission Trip — Oct. 3-9

The deadline is May 15 for this first-time mission trip to the Red Bird Mission Conference in Kentucky. Join the CTC adult team this fall to assist with construction needs and possibly education and community outreach. Not only will the projects provide a rewarding volunteer opportunity, participants will also enjoy a unique cultural experience and may begin developing a relationship between the congregation and this wonderful Missionary Conference. Participants will be asked to attend one planning meeting/team orientation from 3 to 5 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 29, at Acton UMC (3433 Fall Creek Hwy., Granbury 76049). Contact: Dawne McAlpin, mission team leader, at dawne@actonumc.org or 817-326-4252, 578-1701.

News Briefs — The Denomination

Study on the Worldwide Nature of the UMC

The Study Committee on the Worldwide Nature of the UMC, meeting (April 18-21) in Manila with Bishop Scott Jones of the Kansas Area as chair, expects to finalize preliminary observations/conclusions of its work shortly. The committee will be conducting listening posts this summer as they prepare recommendations for the 2012 General Conference in Tampa, Fla. The committee is focusing on developing answers to a series of key questions related to the worldwide church, such as:

- Given the rapid growth of the church outside the U.S., how can the church live more fully worldwide?
- What place will the U.S. conferences have in a worldwide structure? What functions will be reserved for the General Conference and what functions will be lodged with regional conferences?
- Will issues of human sexuality in the *Social Principles* and ordination standards be reserved to the General Conference or decided by regional conferences?

- Are the current general program agencies U.S. agencies or global agencies? If they are U.S. agencies, how is connectional programming to be done in conferences outside the U.S.? How will work outside the U.S. be funded?

- Should agencies be based continentally, e.g., Europe, North America, Africa and Asia or by central/regional conference?

- Are there global agencies/groups/councils vital for the good of the worldwide connection? If so, which ones?

- What mechanisms for collaboration need to be in place for agencies doing similar work in different parts of the world?

- And perhaps, most importantly, why are we doing this? What is our vision for how this will enhance the missional effectiveness of the UMC?

The committee expects to unveil its new Website at the Manila meeting as a repository for the data collected by the committee, and testimony from numerous groups and individuals across the church. It will also serve as a platform for receiving and posting comments and observations from United Methodists interested in church's future as a worldwide denomination.

Texas Pastor to Lead UMCOR

Cynthia Fierro Harvey, a pastor from Texas with a background in the local church, international health ministries, domestic disaster relief, and organizational management is the new head of the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR). She was elected April 13 by directors of the General Board of Global Ministries, the UM mission agency of which UMCOR is a part. Harvey succeeds the Sam Dixon, who was killed in the earthquake that shook Haiti last January 12. Her new position is effective May 1.

Harvey began a special assignment in late January as liaison between UMCOR and UM congregations and annual (regional) conferences that have to date given \$17.8 million to relief efforts in Haiti. For two years, starting in February 2008, she was director of the Texas Conference's Center for Mission Excellence, which equips leaders to carry out ministries of mercy, justice, and wholeness. UMCOR is a major Protestant disaster relief and rehabilitation agency. It is known for staying on the scene of disasters to help with long-term restoration of lives and communities. UMCOR, which operates internationally, often remains in a disaster area after most other humanitarian organizations have gone. In the US, much of its efforts are coordinated through United Methodist annual conference disaster networks.

Should the Next Supreme Court Justice be Protestant?

In yesterday's *Dallas Morning News*, religion news reporter Sam Hodges poses this question based on the fact that "for most of American history, Protestants occupied virtually all the seats on the U.S. Supreme Court. But now there are six Catholics (Alito, Kennedy, Roberts, Scalia, Sotomayor, Thomas), two Jews (Breyer, Ginsburg), and one Protestant — Justice John Paul Stevens." With Justice Stevens' retirement, should we be intentional in replacing him with another Protestant? Among those to whom Hodges posed this question are Dr. William B. Lawrence, dean and professor of American Church History at Perkins School of Theology, SMU, and Matthew Willson, associate professor of Political Science at SMU. One commenter said "there is enough religion in government" and suggested the next justice should be an atheist. Read the full article at <http://religionblog.dallasnews.com/archives/2010/04/texas-faith-should-the-next-su.html>.

Church Vitality

<http://www.gbod.org/site/apps/nlnet/content2.aspx?c=nhLRJ2PMKsG&b=5603505&ct=8163055>

Dean McIntyre, director of music resources for the General Board of Discipleship, offers this resource. How do we measure congregational singing and worship to determine its level or lack of vitality? How about overall congregational vitality? The UMC is doing that right now.

Native American Scholarship

Whisper N Thunder (<http://www.whispernthunder.org>) is an e-mag edited by Billie Fidlin, director of outreach ministries for the Desert Southwest Conference. The group he represents is offering a scholarship to a Native American student with an application deadline of May 1.

(http://www.whispernthunder.org/WnT_Winds_Scholarship.html). Student nominations must be submitted by a subscriber to *Whisper N Thunder*. If a Native American student is interested in applying for the scholarship and the subscription (\$25) is a problem, please contact David Ferguson (madsferg@sbcglobal.net) at River Oaks UMC, Fort Worth.

Remaining 2010 Events at Mount Sequoyah Retreat & Conference Center

150 NW Skyline Dr., Fayetteville, Ark. 72701 • 479-443-4531/800-760-8126

April 20-21: Inter-Faith Church Security & Intruder Awareness Course

Although we don't like to think about violent acts occurring within the church walls, it is something we need to take responsibility and prepare. Church leaders have an obligation to church members, parishioners, and every visitor who steps inside church doors to provide a safe worship environment. This course will give you the tools to start a church safety/security ministry, improve your current plan, and training for church employees (ushers, secretaries, greeters, reception, etc.) on recognizing behavioral pre-cursors or suspicious behavior. \$185 for April 20th; \$295 for April 20-21. Register online at www.intruderresponse.com/registration.html.

May 4-6: "Boot Camp" for Church Planters with Jim Griffith

May 3-4: Pre-Day for Senior Pastors Along with the Planter

This basic training is specifically designed for pastors who are planting new churches in 2010 or for those who have recently planted a new church. Jim Griffith, founder of Griffith Coaching Network, is a veteran of 6 church plants. He will focus on assessing, training, and coaching new church starts. Register at www.mountsequoyah.org.

May 10-13: May Spring Planting

Come take up your hats, and away let us haste to the Butterfly's Ball, and the Grasshopper's Feast. The Trumpeter, Gad-fly, has summon'd the Crew, and the Revels are now only waiting for you. (by William Roscoe, 1807). You are invited to a spring planting. Register at www.mountsequoyah.org.

June 27-29: Addiction Conference

Mount Sequoyah will host an Addiction Ministry Responders Conference focusing on the effects on family relationships and addictions regarding intervention, treatment, transitional living, and recovery. This conference equips clergy and congregations with community resources and response for families, congregations, and community. Limited scholarships are available through SPSARV, GBGM. CEU credit will be given for attending this conference. Contact Cindy Sloan at SPSARV for details about scholarships at 866-444-3330. Register at www.mountsequoyah.org.

Oct. 18-22: Leaves of Gold

This retreat features worship, fellowship, workshops, tours, laughter, learning and fun during the turning of the leaves to gold at Mount Sequoyah! Bishop Richard Wilke will be the featured worship leader. Come and experience the love and wisdom that Bishop Wilke has to share! Workshops include Spiritual Journaling, English Paper Piecing, Nutrition, and a Military workshop. There will be a tour of the AR Air Museum, lots of music, an sharing on UMCOR Missions and lots more! Register online by Oct. 10 at www.mountsequoyah.org.

Oct. 25-28: Autumn Time

Autumn Time is a wonderful experience featuring worship, praise, fellowship, laughter and fun! Workshops include centering prayer, spiritual journaling, exercise, nutrition workshop, military workshop and a tour of the AR Air Museum. There will be a UMCOR Mission update on disasters around the world this year, old time hymn singing and praise time, and free time to experience the diversity of Fayetteville during one of the most beautiful times of year. Save the date on your calendar to experience a time of renewal and fellowship! Register online by Oct. 15 at www.mountsequoyah.org.

CEF Conference — Oct. 22-25

Come to Kentucky to experience the Divine in a new way at the Christian Educators Fellowship Conference Oct. 22-25. Bringing the messages will be Bishop Lindsey Davis and pastors Rudy Rasmus (St. John's UMC, Houston and founder of Bread of Life, Inc.) and Sherry Daniels (Norfolk UMC and former Denman Evangelism Award recipient). Check the CEF website at www.cefumc.org to register and get updates on worships, tours, pre/post-conference offerings.

Local Congregations & Ministry Groups

Girls United in Christ at Good Shepherd — April 16-17

Good Shepherd UMC (2020 S. Collins, Arlington 76010) will continue the "Girls United! in Christ" program for 3rd -6th grade girls. The next session will be Friday and Saturday, April 16-17, at the church. This free program meets four times per year and teaches girls ways to deal with daily life issues in a scripturally sound way through games, Bible study, skits, activities and crafts. Additional information is available through the church office (817-275-1033) or by emailing Esther Webb at elwebb@mindspring.com.

Digital Matters Worship — April 17

An exciting educational opportunity is coming up in April from Midnight Oil, one of the UMC's pioneers in the area of developing creative worship. Their one-day "Design Matters" workshop will be held April 17 at First UMC in Missouri City, TX. This hands-on session is designed to help churches really maximize the effectiveness of media in worship, including tips and techniques on how to produce graphics, video and much more! At \$49, this day is a very cost-effective way to make sure your churches are using their investments in valuable technology and equipment to their highest potential. Check out more information on this event at <http://www.midnightoilproductions.com/seminar/locations/missouri-city/>.

Laura Edwards Basketball Tourney — April 17

The 5th Annual Laura Edwards Annual Basketball Tournament, named the C.O. Howard Basketball Tournament in honor of the former district superintendent of the Waco district Clifton O. Howard, will be held April 17 at the Methodist Children's Home gym in Waco. The benefit begins at 8 a.m. and participating fees are \$150/team. For further information, call the center at 254-753-1312.

Latvia Sunday at Meadowbrook UMC — April 18

Meadowbrook UMC (3900 Meadowbrook Drive, Fort Worth) welcomes Gita Mednis, the district superintendent of the UMC in Latvia, as guest preacher on Sunday, April 18, at the 10:50 a.m. worship service. Kristine Vainovska, also from Latvia and assistant to the DS, will be the guest speaker in the Covenant Adult Class at 9:40 a.m. A potluck lunch in Fellowship Hall will follow morning worship. Vainovska will also be the guest speaker at 8 p.m. Tuesday at Awaken Worship. Come as early as 7:00 p.m. to visit and fellowship.

Texas Friends of Latvia — April 17

The charter meeting of the Texas Friends of Latvia will meet at Smithfield UMC (6701 Smithfield Rd., North Richland Hills) from 3 to 7 p.m. Saturday, April 17. Gita Mednis will update participants on the progress, prayers, and miracles she is witnessing in her work in Latvia. This is wonderful opportunity to learn more about the needs of the UM churches in Latvia, to visit with Gita and Kristine and to meet others in the area who have a heart for the work God is doing in Latvia. Contact Dana Nance (dinance@sbcglobal.net) or call the church office (817-534-1741) by April 10 if you plan to attend.

Community Interfaith Worship of Help, Hope & Healing — April 18

The Crime Victims Council, a non-profit organization for crime victims, their families and friends and the community, will sponsor an interfaith worship service at 3 p.m. Sunday, April 18, at the Garden Community Center of Goodwill Industries (4004 Campus Drive, Fort Worth 76119). This

event coincides with National Crime Victims' Rights Week in Tarrant County. For more details, contact Sandra Lydick at sandrallydick@crimevictimsCouncil.org.

Beth Moore - So Long Insecurity - Simulcast April 24

Join the folks at Genesis UMC from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. April 24th for this dynamic special event. All women can benefit from this honest, funny and profound look at the insecurities that keep us from living into the potential that God has in mind for each of us. Please contact Ginger Watson at 817-292-4551 or visit www.genesisumc.com for more information. \$25 includes lunch. Childcare will be provided on request for \$10.

First Azle Hosts Beth Moore Simulcast — Simulcast April 24

First Azle UMC will host a Beth Moore simulcast from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. April 24. Doors open at 8 a.m. The cost of \$25 includes lunch with prepaid ticket or \$35 at the door. For reservations and ticket info go to www.fumcazle.org and click on Beth Moore.

Annual Benefit to Missions — April 24

Presented by the Mid-Cities United Methodist Women Saturday, April 24, from 9:30 a.m. - 1 p.m. at First UMC Colleyville (5601 Pleasant Run Rd., Colleyville). Join us for music, dance and food at the annual fundraiser for missions. The luau-themed day will be brought by the Tongan UMC. There will be many items to bid on! \$15 tickets are available from Lynn O'Day at natandlynn@sbcglobal.net or 817-485-0027. Childcare will be available.

Glen Lake Camp & Retreat Center Annual Golf Tournament — April 29

It is time again for the GLC&RC Annual Golf Classic to be held on April 29 at Squaw Creek in Glen Rose. Last year's event was the best ever in terms of money raised and the number of participating golfers. There were also a record number of pastors playing. This year's proceeds will again go toward offsetting camp scholarships and the cost of summer camp in general. For more information and to download a registration form, visit www.glenlake.org/golf. GLC challenges pastors to be a part of this important event by either bringing or sending a team or by their church being a hole-sponsor.

The Horizons Tour at Woodway UMC, Waco — April 30

Woodway UMC, Waco will host The Pikes Peak Ringers in "The Horizons Tour" concert at 7 p.m. Friday, April 30. All are invited. Contact: Katy Flowers at 254-751-0411.

Outdoor Revival at Kell Branch — May 1

Kell Branch UMC in the White Hall Community will host an outdoor revival at 5 p.m. Saturday, May 1. A hot dog and chips meal will be served before the revival starts. Pastor Quinton Gibson Sr. of St. James UMC, Temple will be the revivalist. The public is invited to attend. Call the following numbers for further information 254-721-5970 or 254-774-1964. Alicia Hines-Kelly is the pastor of Kell Branch UMC.

Waco Methodists/Baptists Co-host National Day of Prayer Event — May 6

First UMC, Waco and neighboring Columbus Avenue Baptist Church are co-hosts for a National Day of Prayer observant from noon to 1 p.m. Thursday, May 6, at First UMC's Family Life Center (Cobbs @ Lake Air Drive, Waco). The theme is Prayer: For Such a Time at This. Light lunch served. Questions? Contact Linda Hammond at 254-772-5630 or lhammond@fumcwaco.org.

Mission Trip for College Students/Young Adults — May 23-28

Trinity UMC of Arlington is sponsoring a mission trip for college students/young adults to the Oklahoma City area May 23-28. Participants will work in inner city Norman and OKC with a variety of Christian-based social service projects including construction work, food pantries and life shelters. Cost of the trip is \$225 but fund-raising efforts hope to offset the cost. If interested, please contact Brenda Beaver at 274-1345 or Susan McConnell at susanmc30@gmail.com.

“Celebrating Life Through Worship Arts” Benefit Performance — May 15

Date/time: May 15 from 3:30 – 5 p.m. Location: St. Barnabas UMC Church in Arlington (5011 W. Pleasant Ridge, Arlington 76016) This is a benefit celebration of life through the worship arts, uplifting God’s grace and mercy through praise bands, praise dancers, instrumentalists, songsters and the dramatic acts. During this gathering a silent auction will take place, and there will be refreshments for the nourishment of body and soul. For more information, please contact Luther Henry at luther@sbumc.org or 817-483-1667 or Chauncey Nealy at aldersgate1954@sbcglobal.net or 817-274-0116.

Conference UMs Heading to Holy Land — June 8

Join the “Holy Land Trip hosted by Steve Lallier.” Steve, a lay leader for the Adult Singles Class at Whites Chapel UMC in Southlake, and is returning to Israel with friends across the conference. This is a guided tour via Educational Opportunities. For details, visit <http://www.eo.travelwithus.com>. Interested? Contact Steve Lallier at 817-424-5704, 214-912-1979 or email BigBandLdr@aol.com.

Youth Mission Opportunity in Palmer — June 24-27

FUMC Palmer announces PUMP 2010! PUMP (Palmer United Mission Project) is a four-day mission weekend (June 24-27) for youth groups from across Texas. Youth entering grades 4-12 and adults alike are given the opportunity to serve those in need living in the Palmer area and experience small group study, meaningful daily worship, awesome music and inspired talks. This is an appropriate mission trip for first-timers and/or small youth groups. The cost is \$75/per person. For more details and a pre-registration brochure, contact Debbi Mitchell at 214-683-1501 or palmerpump@yahoo.com. Registration deadline: May 31.

No Man Left Behind Dallas – October 21-23

First UMC of Richardson is hosting 2 ½ days of learning, planning and fellowship presented by Man in the Mirror. The conference is designed for any leader who is passionate about seeing men disciplined in their church (pastors, associate pastors, lay leaders and potential leaders). To download a brochure with more details, or to register, visit: www.maninthemirror.org/ltc/about-nmlb.htm. To contact a host team member at FUMCR and learn more about the conference send an email to discipliningmen@fumcr.com. Early bird and team registration discounts are available.

Resources

Need Ideas for Children for Earth Day and Change the World

Karen Granderson, conference director for Christian education, recommends this link (http://blogs.gbod.org/younger_children/) for information and ideas to be used with children’s ministry in celebration of Earth Day and “Change the World.”

Helpful Links for Church Leaders

Central Texas Conference: (www.ctcumc.org) features and other content changes daily

InfoServ: (<http://infoserv.umc.org>)

UM Reporter Interactive: (www.umportal.org)

United Methodist News Service:

(http://www.umc.org/site/c.lwL4KnN1LtH/b.1355375/k.FA13/UMNS_News.htm)

UMNS on Facebook:

(<http://www.kintera.org/TR.asp?a=ifITKWNrGaIKL3K&s=chKUK5NBKbLQI5OKKsG&m=edIKIWP rHgIWF>)

UMNS on Twitter:

(<http://www.kintera.org/TR.asp?a=olL5LeMPLeKYLpl&s=chKUK5NBKbLQI5OKKsG&m=edIKIWP rHgIWF>)

Interpreter Magazine: (<http://interpretermagazine.org/interior.asp?ptid=43&mid=7085>)

El' Interprete (Interpreter in Spanish): (<http://elinterprete.org/>)
10thousanddoors.org: (<http://www.tenthousanddoors.org>)
Rethink Church: (<http://www.rethinkchurch.org>)
UM TechShop: (<http://secure.umcom.org/store/catalog/categoryinfo.aspx?cid=16>)
UM Global Health Initiative:
(http://www.umc.org/site/c.lwL4KnN1LtH/b.4407745/k.89CF/Global_Health.htm)

Depression Seminar in Your Church, Free

Mental Health Facts from the Depression Connection Team: Serious mental illnesses include major depression, schizophrenia, bipolar disorder, obsessive compulsive disorder (OCD), post traumatic stress syndrome (PTSD) and borderline personality disorder. The good news about mental illness is that recovery is possible. With no cost to your church, the Conference Committee on Mental Health Concerns and Depression Connection Team will provide a seminar for your church. To inquire, contact Tony Campbell at 817/810-9599 or tony@depressionconnection.org.

Conference Resource Center

New resources highlighted at the Conference Resource Center this week are described below. There are always new resources; check them out! For these and more resources, contact Carol Roszell at 817-877-5222 or 800-460-8622.

Restoring America. DVD. Filmed before a live audience, and formatted in 20 28:30 segments, this exciting and inspiring program features teaching on America's Christian heritage and how we can get nationwide revival! Displayed on the screen are quotes in a very readable graphic and pictures of the persons or incidents Peter Marshall is teaching about. The segments are entitled: Introduction; Christopher Columbus: The Missionary Explorer; The Pilgrims: The True Founders of America (Parts I-II); The Puritans and the American Covenant (Parts I-III); The Christian Faith of the Founding Fathers (Parts I-V); The Christian Principles of the Constitution; The False Issue of the Separation of Church and State (Parts I-II); Restoring America: How Can We Begin? (Parts I-II); and How Can Revival and Restoration Come? (Parts I-III). Includes leader's guide and participant's guide.

Church Demographics

Church Growth & Development offers a new demographics program for churches. Check it out (and register, if interested) at <http://www.missioninsite.com/>. If you have questions, contact Vicki Eldridge at 817-877-5222, 800-460-8622 or Vicki@ctcumc.org.

Crime Victims Council Information at www.crimevictimsCouncil.org

The new Crime Victims Council website offers many resources. If you are a survivor who would like to share your story or pass along a word of encouragement to one of our survivors or post a picture and other information about a victim, please email encouragement@crimevictimsCouncil.org.

Needs, Resources, Opportunities

NOTE TO LISTERS: Please contact Carolyn Stephens at Carolyn@ctcumc.org to pull your listing when your opening has been filled.

Director of Youth Ministries

First UMC, Red Oak seeks an enthusiastic youth director. The position is half time and will require working with jr. and sr. high youth. Requirements: experience in youth ministry preferred, excellent communication and relationship building skills and excellent references. Needs to have a good understanding of Methodist doctrine and be a mature spiritual leader with a heart for youth and their families. Be able to plan/coordinate activities for 7 – 12 graders, including weekly Bible study, Sunday school, youth meetings, fundraisers, and annual mission trip. Additional ministry

opportunities available depending on gifts and graces. Contact church office at 972-617-9100 for an application. Start date is mid May.

P-T Church Secretary

Part-time church secretary needed (32 hrs/wk). Responsibilities include bulletins, newsletter, church-wide emails, website and maintenance of membership records. Must be proficient in MS Office and able to learn church software. Good organizational and people skills also necessary. Please send resume to First UMC Azle, attn: Dean Posey, 200 Church St., Azle 76020 or email to dposey@fumcazle.org.

Office Equipment

A member of Cogdell UMC in Waco offers two items:

For sale — RICOH-2051 copier, w/finisher, internet capabilities and maintenance available till 2014. \$1,500 or best offer.

Free to good home — Epson Powerlite Multimedia Projector w/screen
Contact Pat at 254-855-0796 for more info.

Administrative Assistant

The Wesley Foundation at TCU has an opening for an administrative assistant, beginning immediately. The successful candidate should have current computer skills and knowledge of Quicken, Microsoft Office, Publisher, Outlook, and Access and be able to handle general office duties. The position requires 15 hours per week, with summer hours negotiable, salary of \$8,500 per year. Please contact Lindsay D. Churchman, director, at l.d.churchman@tcu.edu or 817 924-5639.

P-T Administrative Assistant

Lorena UMC is taking applications for a part-time administrative assistant. Responsibilities include financial, bulletins, newsletter, communications and maintenance of membership records. Must be proficient in Word, Quickbooks and able to learn church software Servant Keeper. 25 hrs/wk at \$9.75 per hour. Email lorenaumc@lorenaumc.org to submit a resume.

P-T Choir Director

University UMC in Fort Worth seeks a part-time (10-12 hr/wk) choir director. A talented Chancel Choir would be the main emphasis with a bell choir as well. Other opportunities also exist. If interested, please contact the church office (817-926-4626) or email Stephen Decker at 2theo2@gmail.com.

BOM Clerical/Secretarial Support

"The Board of Ordained Ministry is seeking a part-time person to provide clerical/secretarial support to the Board office, 10 to 15 hours per week. The position requires experience with Microsoft Office and Access database, or comparable databases, as well as two years of post-high school education and/or two years office experience. The Board's administrative office is located on the Texas Wesleyan University campus. Job description is attached above. Interested parties may contact Gala Trimble by e-mail at board@ctcbom.org.

P-T Director of Children's Ministries

Silver Creek UMC seeks a part-time director of children's ministries. Candidates should have a background in children's education and possess a deep passion for sharing the Gospel with children age 4 through 6th grade. Expectations include coordinating children's Sunday school, helping with the Children's Choir, and planning VBS along with other camps, retreats, and special days throughout the year. Position opens June 1. Applicants can send resumes to Kristie Coleman at kristiecoleman@gmail.com.

F-T Pre-School Director

First UMC of Burleson, a rapidly growing community near the DFW Metroplex, seeks a full-time Pre-School director. First UM Pre-School has been an outreach ministry to families of the church

and the surrounding community for over 25 years. The Pre-School currently serves 139 students in a five-day week program. Sought is a visionary leader focused on growing our program, serving our children, and reaching out to new families. Candidates should have a bachelor's degree in Early Childhood Education or related field with at least 12 credit hours in child development and 6 credit hours in business management, Texas Childcare Administrator Certification, and License, and at least one year of experience as director of a licensed early childhood facility. Submit résumé to Mike Wright-Chapman, associate pastor for Nurture Ministries, to mike.wright-chapman@fumcburleson.org or to 590 NE McAlister, Burleson 76028. Please call 817-295-1166, ext. 230, with any questions or for more information.

F-T Web Manager

The Communications Ministry at Highland Park Presbyterian Church (Dallas) seeks a full-time web manager. HPPC is a church rich in tradition and has a legacy of local and international impact for the cause of Jesus Christ. We are looking for a new multi-faceted team member that has the vision and ability to develop and implement new technologies while continuing to value and support existing services. This person will be a champion for HPPC's desire to strategically leverage the website, email, and other emerging social media, along with existing channels, to effectively communicate internally and externally. Content is king here. You'll need to have the gifts to gather, write and produce clear words and graphics that are web-savvy, high quality, and tell a compelling story. Qualified candidates should email their application packet, which includes, a resume, ministry statement and testimony (why you want to work for a church), links to samples of your work and your "online homes" to Jon Zellers at jon.zellers@hppc.org. This is an urgent need that has recently been permitted to rehire. Only candidates that submit a complete application packet will be considered.

Future UM Clergy Seeks Position

Phillip Harris, who is currently in the candidacy process to become a licensed local pastor, seeks a full-time position with a local church. He has experience in children, youth, and young adult ministries, as well as planning, conducting, and assisting in worship services. In 2004, he was elected to serve the Utah District of the UMC as their district youth representative. Currently, Phillip and his family reside in San Antonio where they are active lay members of University UMC. Contact Phillip Harris at 210-322-8189 or 210-815-4410 or through e-mail at jennifer.phillip@yahoo.com.

Enclosed Cargo Trailer

Resurrection UMC Cleburne, new church start, is in need of a used enclosed cargo trailer. If you can help, call Pastor Victor Pena 254 485 3140.. or email pastorpena@att.net.

P-T Director of Youth Ministries

First UMC of Lampasas in the Texas Hill Country seeks an outgoing, dedicated Christian with a heart for youth to develop, plan and supervise a comprehensive junior high and senior high (6th - 12th grades) ministry of youth for the church and community. This is a part-time position (25-30 hrs/wk) with compensation (\$24,000-\$29,000) depending on previous experience and education. Contact: Linda Nelson at 512-556-5513 or lampasasfumc@sbcglobal.net.

Church Pianist

West FUMC seeks a church pianist. This individual should be talented in playing the piano/organ and also possess a strong love of Christ and the hymns that glorify Him. The position requires playing at weekly Sunday church services, one choir practice session the first Wednesday evening of each month, plus any special services scheduled. Interested individuals should contact Pastor Linda Wimberly at 254-826-5448 or westfumc@att.net.

Carillons

First UMC of Azle has recently upgraded its Carillons. There are 8 tape cartridges from the old Schulmerich Carillon system that the church will gladly donate to any church that can use them. Please contact the church office at 817-444-3323.

Part-Time Youth Director

Smithfield UMC seeks a part-time youth director to work with a great group of teens on Wednesday nights, Sundays and any other days as necessary. Experience preferred. Ability to lead praise and worship is a plus. Interested persons may send a resume to Lisa Neslony via email, pastorlisa@smithfieldumc.org or snail mail, 6701 Smithfield Road, North Richland Hills, 76182. Deadline for applications has been extended to April 15.

2 Children's Ministry Positions

Children's Director — St. John the Apostle UMC in Arlington seeks a director of children's ministries who is a faithful disciple of Christ with a love and passion for children and their families, with a calling to minister to this target audience, and with leadership experience in this ministry area. This director is expected to strengthen, develop and to grow the existing ministries while initiating new ministries to address identified needs. The position is a half-time position (20 hours/week) with the desire for the position to grow quickly to 3/4 or full time. For more info, contact Nancy Froman at 817-468-8484 or nancy.froman@sjaumc.org.

Preschool Director — St. John the Apostle UMC in Arlington seeks a director of preschool ministries (part-time, 12-15 hours/week) who is a faithful disciple of Christ with a love and passion for young children and their families, with a calling to minister to this target audience, and with leadership experience in this ministry area. This director is expected to strengthen, develop and to grow the existing ministries while initiating new ministries to address identified needs. For more info, contact Nancy Froman at 817-468-8484 or nancy.froman@sjaumc.org.

2 Music Positions

Associate Director of Music — First UMC, Killeen seeks associate director of music (PT) to assist in leading and managing all aspects of music ministry. Contemporary music experience and formal music training preferred. Experience leading and directing choirs and instrumental groups in congregational worship setting a plus. Call 254-634-6363 for audition/interview.

Lead Accompanist — First UMC, Killeen seeks lead accompanist for contemporary worship (PT). Must be proficient at sight reading, playing from lead sheet, improvising. Accompaniment experience and formal music training preferred. Experience playing piano and keyboard in congregational worship setting a plus. Call 254-634-6363 for audition/interview.

Ass't Director/Preschool & Asst Director/Parent's Day Out

Chapel Hill Children's School, a ministry of White's Chapel UMC, Southlake, seeks to fill two newly created positions in its ministry to children ages 18 months through kindergarten. Each position will report to the director. Successful candidates will possess a CDA, associate's or bachelor's degree in ECE or related field. A minimum of three years experience in an early childhood classroom setting or teaching grades K-2 is preferred. For more information, please contact Mary Plemons, director, at 817-424-1396 or mplemons@whiteschapelumc.com

Director of Children's Ministry

First UMC of Waxahachie is accepting applications for the part-time position of Children's Ministry Coordinator. FUMC Waxahachie has many dynamic children's ministry programs that are already in place and the church is looking to expand that even more. If you have an active relationship with Christ, experience in working with children and families, and love to work with and recruit volunteers from church and community, please call 972.937.4400 or send your resume to fumcwax.sr.pastor@sbcglobal.net.

FUMC-WAX is a county-seat church in Ellis County (40 min from DT FTW) with a long heritage of faith and service to the community.

Director of Children's Ministry

FUMC Duncanville seeks candidates for director of children's ministry. This part-time position demands a faithful disciple of Christ who is an experienced and well-trained individual with a true passion for children's ministry. They will be responsible for leading all areas of programming for children from infants through sixth grade. FUMCD is a regional church in southwest Dallas

County with a dynamic staff and congregation and a proud 150-year heritage of faith and service. For more information, contact Jim Bowden, senior pastor, at revdrjimbowden@gmail.com or 972-298-6121.

Worship Leader

New Day UMC (www.ndumc.com), a new church start in Mansfield, seeks a part-time worship leader for its non-traditional worship gatherings. Applicants must be able to provide voice and instrumental leadership as well as work to gather and develop a praise team. Salary is negotiable. Send your resume to Sheila Fiorella at Sheila@newdayumc.com or to P.O. Box 2125, Mansfield 76063.

Director of Music Ministry

First UMC Cleburne — a growing suburban church family with a traditionally based music program and occasional contemporary music offerings — seeks candidate resumes for director of music ministry. The candidate must have the flexibility to consider, assess, and implement new and innovative methods and programs to enhance the musical ministry and worship of the church. This is a part-time position with the possibility (or future consideration) of becoming a full-time ministry position. Responsibilities include: planning, organization, recruiting, execution, and evaluation of the music ministry program under the supervision of the senior pastor; supervising the organist and pianist; areas of Adult and Hand Bell Choirs; other essential functions upon request. Bachelor's degree in music and experience required. Resumes will be accepted through March 30. Salary negotiable. Email resumes to robert@fumccleburne.com.

Adult Retreat Center Coordinator

Glen Lake Camp & Retreat Center seeks a ministry-minded individual interested in serving as retreat center coordinator for Still Water Lodge. Responsibilities include hospitality, marketing and reservations management. Experience in Christian camping, Christian education or adult ministry preferred, but not required. This full-time position requires on-site residence, included as part of the compensation. To apply, please mail resume with references to P.O. Box 928, Glen Rose 76043 or fax to 254-897-2423.

2010 Annual Conference Business / Awards / Recognitions

District Conferences

As of today, the following District Conferences have been scheduled:

Fort Worth – 7-8 p.m. May 18 – Edge Park UMC
Temple – 7 p.m. May 18 – FUMC Temple
Brownwood – 6:30 p.m. May 24 – Comanche UMC
Mid-Cities – 7-8 p.m. May 17 – Richland Hills UMC
Waxahachie – 7 p.m. May 20 – First Waxahachie UMC
Waco – 6 p.m. May 20 – Cogdell Memorial UMC
Weatherford – 6:30 p.m. May 25 – First UMC, Weatherford

All awards, scholarship, honors and recognitions (with links for application/nomination forms) can be found at <http://www.ctcumc.org/news/detail/103>

If you know someone in your church, district or even outside the Central Texas Conference who might appreciate receiving this weekly electronic newsletter — or to unsubscribe your own listing — please contact Susan Briles at Susan@ctcumc.org.