



Central E-Link

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

August 25, 2010

Welcome! This is the conference's weekly update to church leaders — lay and clergy. Articles and 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

Sept. 1 Deadline for Submitting Fall Fundraiser Information

As of today, 18 churches have e-mailed their annual fundraiser events for the conference's one-time publishing of events. This listing is intended as an open invitation for anyone to visit and support these fun events. The list will be published in the Sept. 17 issue of *Central Link* and will appear on the conference website that same week. Please send your event information (date, time, place, special activities and/or features, contact person with e-mail) to Carolyn@ctcumc.org by Sept. 1. The list will be published ONE TIME ONLY and there will be no listings in the *E-Link*. If you have e-mailed your information and it is not on the list below, please resend. The conference server crashed a week ago and some messages may have been missed.

Colleyville, Comanche, Cross Plains, Crowley, Euless, Gatesville, Glen Rose, Hillsboro First, Kennedale, Lorena, Midlothian, New World, Oakdale, Poolville, Springtown, St. Mark/Cleburne, Temple First, Waxahachie First

Sept. 1 Is Deadline for Church/Ministry Display Tables

Plan to arrive at the CTC Centennial Celebration early on Saturday, Oct. 23, if you hope to visit ALL the local church historic displays. WHAT A RESPONSE! As of today there are 146 churches and ministries that have registered display tables for the celebration at Will Rogers Memorial Complex in Fort Worth. For more details and a registration form, visit www.ctcumc.org and click on the Centennial logo. The 146 display tables already reserved are for:

Acton	Aledo	Alliance First	Alvarado
Annetta	Arlington First	Asbury, Ft Worth	Austin Avenue, Waco
Azle	Ballinger First	Bangs	Bedford First
Bethel, Ft Worth	Bethesda	Bluff Dale	Bracks/Springhill
Breckenridge First	Bristol	Brock	Bruceville-Eddy
Cahill	Campus Drive	CT Meth. Foundation	Christ, Ft Worth
Cisco First	Cogdell Memorial	Coleman First	Colleyville First
Comanche First	Corsicana First	Couts Memorial	Cranfills Gap
Crawford First	Cross Plains	Crowley	Davis Memorial
DeLeon First	Dido	Edge Park, Ft Worth	El Buen Samaritano
Emhouse/Richland	Emanuel Chapel	Ennis First	Epworth, Arlington
Euless First	Eureka	Evant	Everman
Faith	Ferris	Ferris Heights	Fisherman's Chapel
Fort Worth First	Frost	Foundation/Lakewood	Gatesville First

Georgetown First	Genesis	Glen Rose First	Grace, Arlington
Grace, Copperas Cove	Grace, Ft Worth	Graham First	Grandview
Granger	Grapevine First	Green's Creek	Groesbeck First
Hamilton First	Handley	Hannibal	Hico First
Hillsboro First	Hubbard	Hurst First	Iredell
Jean	Joshua	Keller First	Kennedale First
Kerens	King Memorial	Kirvin	Kopperl
Lakeside	McMillan	(Wm. C.) Martin	Meadowbrook
Mexia First	Mineral Wells First	Morgan Mill	Morningside
Mt. Zion/Perry Chapel	Newcastle First	New World	Novice
Oakdale	Olney	Palmer	Perry
Pleasant Grove	Polytechnic, Ft Worth	Poolville	Red Oak
Richland Hills	Ridglea, Ft Worth	River Oaks	St. Andrews, Ft Worth
St. James, Temple	St. James, Waco	St. John the Apostle	St. Luke, Corsicana
St. Luke, Ft Worth	St. Luke, Mexia	St. Mark, Cleburne	St. Matthew
St. Paul, Temple	St. Paul, Georgetown	St. Paul, Hurst	Saginaw
Salado	Santa Anna	Sardis	Silver Creek
Smithfield	Springtown First	Tehuacena	Temple First
Thompson Chapel	Tolar	Trinity, Arlington	Waco First
Watauga	Watts Chapel	Weatherford First	Wellspring
Wesley, Waco	Wesley Mem, Cleburne	Western Hills	Woodway, Waco
Wortham	United Com. Centers		

Revised Central Link Schedule

In order to stay within the conference's reduced budget, three *Central Link* newspaper issues will be deleted from the usual every-other-week schedule. The Sept. 3, Nov. 26 and Dec. 24 issues (all around holiday times) will not be published. Please keep this in mind when submitting information for publication that is time sensitive.

E-Link Goes on Hiatus Next Week

The *E-Link* will be on hiatus next week (Sept. 1), but will resume Wednesday (Sept. 8).

Evangelism Training Opportunity

Hundreds attending the Annual Conference in June signed a Holy Covenant document promising to "heed Jesus' call to 'make disciples of all nations' by extending the hand of Christian witness to at least two people each week." The Conference Evangelism Task Force, mainly Rev. Joel Robbins (chair) and Rev. Brad Brittain, have been providing training to churches that are interested in adopting what Bishop Robert Schnase refers to as "radical hospitality" in his books on *Five Practices of Fruitful Congregations* and *Five Practices of Fruitful Living*. The two pastors are committing their Thursday evenings to provide this training for local churches and/or clusters of churches anywhere in the conference. The training includes new ideas for leadership and an inspirational component tied to success stories in other churches and the resulting changes in the lives of individuals and the congregation. To schedule a time for your church or cluster of churches, please contact Carolyn Stephens at Carolyn@ctcumc.org.

Join a Crop Walk in Your Area

Join a Church World Service CROP Walk in any of 3 CTC communities. CROP Hunger Walks help children and families worldwide -- and right here in the U.S. -- to have food for today, while building for a better tomorrow. Each year some 2 million CROP Hunger Walkers, volunteers, and sponsors put their hearts and soles in motion, raising over \$16 million per year to help end hunger and poverty around the world and in their own communities. Check out www.churchworldservice.org for more information. The following CROP Walks are scheduled in our area this fall:

Oct. 10 — Mid-Cities (in Bedford)

Oct. 17 — Georgetown

Oct. 17 — Fort Worth (see www.tarrantareacc.org for details)

Are You a Potential Centennial Church?

Tapping into this year's centennial theme — the 100th anniversary of the CTC — a "Centennial Church" will be a designation given to congregations reaching certain achievements and will be celebrated at the 2011 Annual Conference June 5-8 in Waco. Check out the revised Point System list and other details at www.ctcumc.org. Between Sept. 1, 2010 and May 1, 2011, a church may select challenges from the list and will receive the designation of Centennial Church with a score of 100.

Foundation Workshop for Church Leaders — Aug. 28

The Central Texas Methodist Foundation is offering "Engaging, Equipping and Growing Disciples" workshop for church leaders from 9 a.m. to noon, Thursday, Aug. 28, at Arlington Heights UMC, Fort Worth. The workshop includes three discipleship segments:

- New Consecration Sunday - a program for stewardship development
CTMF Consultant Larry Van Zile addresses using this Sunday program to consistently grow disciples in the grace of giving
- EQUIP - the Methodist version of the Financial Peace University program
Mike Wiley, senior adviser with the Oklahoma UM Foundation, addresses EQUIP, the acclaimed Methodist-friendly version of the popular Financial Peace University to equip disciples for personal financial freedom
- Alpha USA – the evangelism program that engages people to explore faith in Christ
Alpha District Director Peggy Lively addresses the Alpha evangelism program to effectively engage people in discovering the love of Christ and beginning or renewing their discipleship journey

These programs are well tested by UMs to empower successful, non-confrontational ministry with measurable results. Workshop participants will have opportunity for round-table discussions with the presenter of their choice to discuss a particular program for their home church. There is no charge to participate in the workshop, but reservations are required to assure adequate materials. Please call 817-332-1394, 800-333-4096 or e-mail pat@ctmf.org.

Self-Care for Clergy Program Coming in Sept & Nov

The Self-Care for Clergy Workshop is designed to provide a break from day-to-day responsibilities and allow for reflections, reviving and renewing the spirit and potential that effective ministry requires. There are two programs from which to choose:

Servant Leadership: Personal and Professional Self-Care

Sept. 20-21-- Still Water Lodge, Glen Rose
Register by Sept. 1 • 254-897-2247
www.glenlake.org/stillwater

Nov. 8-9 – Summers Mill Retreat Center, Belton
Register by Oct. 15 • 254-939-6194
www.summersmill.com

Schedule for each: 5:30-9 p.m. Monday; 8:30 a.m. – noon on Tuesday. The cost of the course is \$85/person. Participants in the Virgin Health Miles program will be given a 1,000-mile award for participating in Self-Care for Clergy. Sign up for one of the sessions by the indicated deadline. Register at www.ctcumc.org under "Ministries" and choose Health and Welfare.

UMVIM Team Leader Training — Sept. 18 / Registration Deadline Sept. 1

If you will be leading a mission team or would like to consider becoming a mission team leader for your church, please join us for a conference-wide UMVIM team leader training! Training will be held on Saturday, Sept. 18, from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at FUMC Round Rock. For more information and to download a flyer and registration form, please visit the UMVIM page on the conference website (www.ctcumc.org) under the "Ministries" tab. Additionally, we will be blessed with the presence of Richard Bosart, UM missionary and recent director of Southern Africa Methodist Volunteers in Mission (SAMVIM). If you would like to stay after the training for a working lunch from 1 to 2 p.m. to learn about opportunities to serve with SAMVIM, please RSVP to Jennifer Bellamy at 817-877-5222 or Jennifer@ctcumc.org. Registration deadline: Sept. 1.

Lay Health Promoter Training — Sept. 24-26/Salado

For the past 5 years, several CTC churches have taken the GoodNEWS training from Dr. Mark DeHaven (Genetics, Nutrition, Exercise, Wellness, and Spirituality) for the purpose of training Lay

Health Promoters in local congregations. Dr. DeHaven and Dr. Jenny L. Lee will lead the conference Sept. 24-26 at Salado First UMC beginning Friday at 6 p.m. and ending Sunday at 3:30 p.m. A registration form is on the Health & Wellness page of www.ctcumc.org with information on motel reservations and a detailed itinerary. The deadline for registration is Sept. 1. Motels involved with the Salado event have a deadline of Aug. 24. This workshop is asking for 2 people per church, and even churches that have taken it before can sign up again. There will be a maximum of 20 churches allowed – 2 individuals per church – with a registration cost of \$75/person, \$150/church. Those attending this training will form the CTC focus group for the next 3 years. Dr. DeHaven will follow progress of the local churches and meet with the LHP's every 6 months for 3 years.

Preventing Clergy Sexual Misconduct (PCSM) — Sept. 30

Course to be offered in the Brownwood District: Karen Granderson and Mary Gean Cope will lead this course from 10 a.m. – 3 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 30, at Early First UMC (1073 Early Blvd., Early). The course is designed for clergy who wish or need to do the training in person instead of online. Clergy from other districts are welcome to attend as well as church assistants and children and youth workers. A light lunch will be provided for the cost of \$5. Please RSVP to the Brownwood District Office (brownwood@ctcumc.org; 325/646-8223 or 800/646-8223) by Monday, Sept. 27.

Glen Lake Adventure Race — Oct. 9

Join the first annual Glen Lake Adventure Race on Saturday, Oct. 9, at Glen Lake Camp & Retreat Center, Glen Rose. Teams of 2 will run/bike/paddle/climb their way around Glen Lake with a few fun surprises along the way! Team categories: Men, Women, Co-Ed, and Youth (5th-12th grade). Prizes awarded for the top three teams in each category. This is a course that anyone can do. Never done an adventure race before? But up for the challenge? Not a problem. This race will be a fun day of getting to enjoy the outdoors and a little friendly competition along the way. All proceeds from the race go to support the ministry of Glen Lake Camp. Please visit <http://www.glenlake.org/recreation> for further details and to register!

Strengthening Families in the Local Church — Oct. 16

The Conference Nurture Council will present a seminar on “Parenting Skills Curriculum” starting at 9 a.m. Oct. 16 at Burleson First UMC. Registration is \$12 before Oct. 1, \$15 from Oct. 1-15, and \$20 at the door. The goal is to provide opportunities for teachers, pastors and other church leaders to review and understand that teaching parenting skills is possible in their local setting. Keynote speaker Dr. Katie Long will address the theological rationale for the church to teach parents how to raise their children. Following that presentation, participants may choose up to three workshops on curriculum for the local church. Each of the workshops will provide information and resources that local church leaders can use to provide excellent training for parents and leaders who want to raise healthy, happy, responsible children. This conference is intended to increase spiritual growth, transform existing churches and help develop a whole new generation of principled Christian leaders. Check the Conference website (www.ctcumc.org) for more details. The registration brochure and more information about these workshops and leaders can be found from the calendar or on the Nurture Council, Marriage and Family page.

The Sower's Bag Sermon Writing Retreat — Oct. 25-27

The Conference Order of Elders is sponsoring The Sower's Bag Sermon Writing Retreat Oct. 25-27 at Still Water Lodge in Glen Rose. This sermon writing retreat seeks to help inspire, facilitate and lead interested clergy in planning sermons for the Advent and Christmas season. Dr. David Mosser, senior pastor at Arlington First UMC, will lead exegetical and study sessions in a lecture/worship format with lectionary and thematic tracks. Time will be set aside for small group fellowship and discussion as well as time to write and plan sermons. Mosser has been the contributing editor for Abingdon's Preaching Annual since 2003, and is a regular contributor to Preaching Magazine, The International Lesson Series Annual, Adult Bible Studies and Lectionary homiletics. For a flyer and registration form, visit <http://www.ctcumc.org/pages/detail/1459>.

Faithfully Fit Forever Leader Training — Nov. 13

The CTC Health & Wellness Task Force is sponsoring Faithfully Fit Forever Leader Training at 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Nov. 13 at Keller First UMC (1025 Johnson Road, Keller 76248). Faithfully Fit Forever (FFF) 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. To date, over 150 places of worship in 8 states have implemented FFF programs. The \$75 cost includes 16 weeks of programming to get you started, a training manual, educational materials/references, devotional resources and exercise leadership video. More details on the conference website (www.ctcumc.org) under Ministries/Health and Wellness.

News Briefs — The Denomination

National Alcohol & Drug Addiction Recovery Month

September is National Alcohol & Drug Addiction Recovery Month and resources for focusing on this problem are available from the General Board of Church & Society at <http://www.recoverymonth.gov/>. Read about combating addiction at <http://www.umc-gbcs.org/site/apps/nlnet/content.aspx?c=frLJK2PKLqF&b=6176637&ct=8573705> and at the end of the article find other resources, including sample worship services and sermon helps.

Pakistan: Monsoons, Flood Relief Update

Check the CTC website (www.ctcumc.org) for information about the floods in Pakistan, what the UMC is doing to help, and links for how you can help through Advance giving. UMCOR grants are providing clean drinking water, food, temporary shelter, and medical aid to tens of thousands of people affected by the crisis. Download church resources, including a church bulletin insert, a PowerPoint slide, and a prayer of petition to share with your church community. Our gifts to **International Disaster Response, UMCOR Advance #982450** will help UMCOR address the needs of the most vulnerable populations affected by the flooding. Please indicate Pakistan Emergency on the memo line of your check.

Perkins Youth School of Theology — Sept. 20

High school juniors and seniors are invited to learn more about the Perkins YOUTH School of Theology from 7 to 9 p.m. Monday, Sept. 20, on the SMU campus's Prothro Hall/Great Hall Room 121. The school, held each summer, is a theological program for high school youth to explore faith formation practices of service, mentoring and theological study and mature them as leaders for the church and community. To learn more about PYST, visit <http://www.smu.edu/Perkins/PublicPrograms/PYST.aspx> or call 214-768-1333.

Changing the Church, Changing the World: Real-Life Stories of Transformation — Sept. 9

Perkins School of Theology at SMU will host a presentation, "Changing the Church, Changing the World: Real-Life Stories of Transformation," on Thursday, Sept. 9, from 7 to 9 p.m. in the Great Hall of Elizabeth Perkins Prothro Hall. The presentation, sponsored by the Wendland-Cook Professorship of Constructive Theology, will consist of a panel discussion by Gil and Inez Dawes and Friedrich Gehring, moderated by Professor Joerg Rieger, the first scholar to hold the Wendland-Cook Professorship. Free parking in the Meadows Museum garage can be accessed via Schlegel Street off of Bishop Blvd., just north of Mockingbird Lane. For more information about the presentation, contact Professor Rieger at jrieger@smu.edu or 214-768-2356.

Lighten the Burden III AIDS Conference — Deadline: Sept. 20

Lighten the Burden III, the third international AIDS conference sponsored by the UM Global AIDS Fund committee, will be Oct. 14-16 at the Radisson Central Hotel in Dallas. Join along with AIDS activists and advocates on this educational and spiritual journey to work toward an AIDS-free world. Registration: \$100 (includes meals and resources). Deadline: Sept. 20. The conference

will feature national and international speakers, each bringing their unique perspective to the AIDS pandemic. Featured speakers include:

Dr. Musa W. Dube, theologian and biblical scholar, the University of Botswana;
Dr. Pauline Muchina, senior partnership adviser, UNAIDS;
Bishop Minerva G. Carcaño, episcopal leader of the Desert Southwest Conference;
Jeffrey Crowley, director of the White House Office of National AIDS Policy (**invited**); and
Rev. Tyrone Gordon, St. Luke UMC, Dallas.

To register for Lighten the Burden III, go to www.umglobalaidsfund.org. Questions? Contact Donna Brandyberry at dbrandyberry@umc-gbcs.org or 202-488-5641.

Preparing for a Future With Hope — Oct. 7-8

The best years of the church are ahead of us, and in anticipation, this year's Leadership Institute will focus on "**Preparing for a Future with Hope.**" Join Adam Hamilton, the staff of the Church of the Resurrection, and thousands of UMs in our goal to "Prepare for a Future with Hope" at Leadership Institute 2010 October 7-8, Leawood, KS. For a video clip message from Adam Hamilton and more details on the Leadership Institute, visit <http://www.cor.org/catalyst/leadership-institute-2010/>.

Annual Leadership Institute at Church of the Resurrection — Oct. 7-8

The best years of the church are ahead of us, and in anticipation, this year's Leadership Institute will focus on "Preparing for a Future with Hope." Join Adam Hamilton, the staff of the Church of the Resurrection, and thousands of UMs from around the country in seeking to "Prepare for a Future with Hope" at Leadership Institute 2010 Oct. 7-8 at Leawood, Kan. <http://www.cor.org/institute10>. Special Discounts available for young adults and leaders of new churches.

Local Congregations & Ministry Groups

It's 110 Years for Thompson Chapel

Thompson Chapel will be celebrating 110 years of praising and serving God with a special service at 4 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 17. Contact for more details: Twinkle Stubbs at thompsonchapel@sbcglobal.net or 817-626-9404.

Dave Ramsey's Financial Peace University — Starts Sept. 12

Davis Memorial UMC will host this 13-week class that begins Sept. 12 from 3 to 5 p.m. Can you imagine what your life would be like if you had NO payments ... if you were completely debt free! The class will show you how to get there no matter where you are right now. By the end of the class the average family pays off more than \$5,000 in debt and saves almost \$3,000. You'll learn how to handle the money God entrusts you with His way and what it means to have true financial peace. Do you have all your debt paid off already? This class is also for you!! Come and learn about investing, wealth building, retirement planning and more. If you would like to sign up, please call the church office at 817-281-0411.

25th Anniversary for St. John the Apostle UMC — Sept. 18

St. John the Apostle UMC in Arlington is having its 25th Anniversary Dinner (5:30 p.m.) and Celebration (7 p.m.) on Saturday, Sept. 18 with founding pastor Jerry Chism sharing the church's early SJA stories. There will be 25th Anniversary Worship Services on Sunday, Sept. 19, with Bishop Lowry preaching at all 3 services (8:30 a.m., 9:40 a.m., and 11 a.m.). If you are planning to come to the dinner, please RSVP to nancy.froman@sjaumc.org.

Depression Connection: Understanding, Help and Hope

When suffering from depression, bipolar or a related disorder, learn what helps and what hurts. Research confirms that people who participate in regular support groups often experience a better quality of life and a greater likelihood of recovery from the symptoms of depression, anxiety

disorder and bipolar disorder. Depression Connection support group meets Tuesdays from 6:30-8 p.m. in Room 4 of the Heritage Campus of First UMC Grapevine (4344 Heritage Ave.). The group is structured to include approximately 10 individuals and a licensed, trained facilitator. In addition to an opportunity to communicate about one's individual concerns, an educational component is included in each meeting. Questions about Depression Connection? Contact Katherine Hunter at 817-481-2559 x130 or katherineh@fumcg.org.

Career Transition Support Group at First Hurst

NETworkers is a career transition support group at First UMC Hurst for those who are unemployed and actively looking for jobs. NETworkers meets in the church parlor every Monday for about 1 ½ hours beginning at 9 a.m. Knowing that unemployment is such a difficult situation, the church wants to do something to offer emotional support as well as practical tips for social networking, resume writing, etc. They often have guest speakers. Contact: Sandra Hill at 817-282-7384 ext. 17.

110th Anniversary at Tenth Street UMC, Taylor — Sept. 5

Tenth Street UMC of Taylor will observe and celebrate its 110th anniversary as a congregation in the CTC on Labor Day weekend. The celebration will begin with a 10:30 a.m. worship service on Sept. 5 with Bishop Michael Lowry preaching. A covered dish luncheon will follow in the church fellowship hall. A historical display will be available for viewing and cake and coffee with visiting will follow in the afternoon. Several former pastors and members as well as guests from other Taylor churches are expected to be present. Tenth St. UMC began as a Swedish congregation in 1900 and vestiges of that heritage are still evident in the church today.

Alvarado First Celebrates “Welcome Home” — Sept. 5

FUMC Alvarado (301 South Spears St.) has been designated a Certified Welcoming Congregation by UM Communications. To celebrate this accomplishment and the 147 years of ministry by Methodist congregations in Alvarado, Sunday, Sept. 5 will be “Welcome Home Sunday.” Former pastor Eric Smith will provide the message for the joint service at 10:30 and the Blue Grass gospel group, “No Turning Back,” will bless those present with their music. Lunch will follow in the Family Life Center. All are invited to join current and former members and pastors in worship.

Paul Saik Concert at Woodway — Sept. 12

Renowned Christian recording artist Paul Saik will be in concert at Woodway First UMC (21000 Woodway Drive, Waco) at 7 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 12. Central UMC joins Woodway in sponsoring this concert. For more details, call 254-751-0411.

Gather at the River of Life at First Arlington & Thomas Q. Robbins — Sept. 12-13

Water is a vivid and powerful symbol in the Scriptures of God's providence, deliverance and grace. We are drawn to God's waters at times when we are in need of spiritual renewal. We're baptized in it, refreshed through it, calmed by it. So it's no surprise that “Gathering at the River of Life” is an appropriate theme for the revival to be held at the First UMC in Arlington Sept. 12 and 13. Thomas Q. Robbins will be the guest preacher for the two-day event, which features Sunday morning worship and evening services at 7 p.m. on Sunday and Monday. For full event details, please visit www.ArlingtonMethodist.org/gathering.

Building Consecration at Clifton — Sept. 26

First UMC of Clifton will be consecrating a new foyer, office complex, nursery, choral practice hall, sanctuary platform, handicap bathrooms, and the renovation of other parts of the worship facility and grounds at 4 p.m. Sept. 26. This has been about a 3 ½-year planning and construction journey for this congregation. It really has been a work of love, commitment, beauty and quality. All are invited to the consecration service.

Lay Speaker Course / Temple District

Lay speaker courses being offered to all in the Temple District:

Saturday, Sept. 11 9 a.m. – 7 p.m. at Wellspring, Georgetown (lunch provided)
Youth Basic — taught by Pam Dieckert 254 939-5413 pam@dieckert.com & Cindy Weigand

Saturday, Oct. 9, 9 a.m. – 6 p.m. at Temple Oak Park
Basic — planning underway by Pam Dieckert, Temple District Lay Speaker chair

Just Say Know Biblically Based Sexuality Education — Oct. 1 & 2

On Friday-Saturday, Oct. 1 and 2, the Methodist Children's Home will host a training event for the "Just Say Know" Biblically Based Sexuality Education. Rev. Linda Goddard, the author of the curriculum, and her husband Richard, will lead the training. Training begins Friday from 7 to 10 p.m., and continues Saturday from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. MCH has had great responses from students and staff when they have used this curriculum previously. Cost of the training is \$20 per person, which includes lunch Saturday and your own copy of Student Resource Manual. Contact: Chaplain Steve Heyduck at <http://methodistchildrenshome.org/> or 254-750-1310.

Older Adult Retreat at Mt. Sequoyah — Oct. 18-21

Trinity UMC, Arlington is taking a group of older adults to the *Leaves of Gold Older Adult Retreat* at Mt. Sequoyah in Fayetteville, Ark, Oct. 18-21. The keynote speaker is Bishop Richard Wilke, retired Bishop in Residence at Southwestern College in Winfield, Kan. Kathey Youngblood, wife of Trinity pastor Scott Youngblood, will lead a retreat workshop on the art of quilting. Trinity is inviting anyone who would like to attend the retreat to share the cost of transportation via the rental of a mini-bus. You may register for the retreat at www.mtsequoyah.org, and then confirm your transportation reservation by calling Brenda Beaver at 817-274-1345 as soon as possible.

Women of Faith — Round Rock First Women Have Tickets to Share

The women of Round Rock First UMC are going to San Antonio for Women of Faith - Imagine, Oct. 22-23 in the Alamodome. We have a few tickets left and invite others from the conference to join us. The ticket price is \$89. Contact group leader Karah Ricketts at krosyrup@yahoo.com or 512-917-9874. *Escape from the everyday at a Women of Faith weekend and be refreshed, encouraged and inspired. Because the God who loves you can do far more than you can ever imagine.*

Financial Peace Workshop — Aug. 24 Start Up at Sparks Memorial

Sparks Memorial UMC (900 Maxfield, Waco 76705) will be leading a 13-week session on Dave Ramsey's *Financial Peace University*. The goal of FPU is transformation. FPU teaches how to eliminate debt, save for the future and how to give like never before. On average, class members pay off \$5,300 in debt and save \$2,700 in a 90-day period. If you would like to register for the class, go to www.daveramsey.com, click on "classes," then click on "find a class." Type in "76705" in the zip code field. Click "Register" under Sparks Memorial UMC. Cost is \$99.51 for materials and is payable at the preview. For questions, contact Jimmy Sansom at 254-799-5124 (church) or 254-716-9550 (cell).

Woman in the Mirror Workshop at Keller First — Sept. 18

First UMC of Keller (1025 Johnson Road Keller 76248) will host "The Woman in the Mirror, Finding the Beauty Within" featuring Jennifer Strickland, former model and founder of Jennifer Strickland Ministries, and now author of "Girl Perfect: Confessions of a Former Runway Model." The event is 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. Sept. 18 at the church. Advance tickets \$10/at the door \$15.

Strickland's mission is to inspire young women to shine from the inside out by helping them discover real beauty, worth and a purpose that truly lasts. Jennifer will be sharing her story of her rise in the fashion world and her heart-wrenching fall. She'll speak about the illusion of outward perfection, offering hope and healing to those suffering from eating disorders, poor self-image, drug and alcohol abuse, cutting, sexual abuse and promiscuity, which chip away at their sense of well-being. www.kellerumc.org

Carry the Light Concert at the Bass — Sept. 26

Sept. 26, Bass Hall, Fort Worth, 3 & 7 p.m.

Carry the Light is a contemporary Gospel concert that will feature over 300 singers and instrumentalists from various denominations located across the DFW area. This concert is part of a plan to sponsor an entire community, over 1000 orphaned children, through the three-year Giving Hope Program to transform their lives from hopelessness to blessing. All proceeds from the concert will benefit the children in this life-changing ministry. More information can be found at www.carrythelight2010.org.

Children & Youth Worker Training: The Basics — Oct. 1-2

Friday-Saturday, Oct. 1-2, at FUMC Weatherford (301 South Main St., Weatherford 76086-4305) <http://www.ctcumc.org/churches/detail/1297> Christian Ed Basics is a weekend training experience for leaders in children and youth ministries. It is open to any children or youth ministry leader, new or experienced, volunteer or paid, full time or part time. At Christian Ed Basics, you get an introduction to information and tools you need to succeed in children or youth ministries. Brochure at

http://ct.brickriver.com/files/oFiles_Library_XZXLCZ/conference_brochurefinal_2DKUXFGW.pdf.

Maximizing Emotional Connections Conference — Oct. 14-17

Whether you are counseling, preaching or leading an organization, your effectiveness will be greatly impacted by your capacity to connect with others emotionally. Want to learn more about the “how and why” of emotional connection? The Tomkins Institute presents Maximizing Emotional Connection Oct. 14-17 at First UMC Fort Worth. Sponsored by the Center for Creative Transformation at First UMC of Fort Worth, Wesleyan University, The Institute for Restorative Communities and the University of Illinois at Chicago Medical School, this conference brings presenters from across the globe to offer presentations on topics like the neurobiology of attachment, cognition and emotion, understanding the dynamics of emotion in organizations and relationships, etc. Experts in these respective fields will explore application to church, school, business, criminal justice and psychotherapy. For more information, visit www.tomkins.org or contact Charles Gaby, MA, LPC at 817-339-3881.

Resources

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=iflTKWnrGaIKL3K&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>)

EI' 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)

Worship Resources for Children's Sabbath

This year, the UMC will observe Children's Sabbath Oct. 8-10. Children's Sabbath is an ecumenically celebrated weekend committed to educating the congregation about the state of

today's children and families in America. Children provide leadership through music, sharing of gifts, and reading of scripture. Downloadable resources for this event are available through the Children's Defense Fund <http://www.childrensdefense.org/child-research-data-publications/data/2010-childrens-sabbaths-manual.html>. Use an interactive map to find ideas that worked in congregations and communities in 2009 <http://www.childrensdefense.org/programs-campaigns/faith-based-action/childrens-sabbaths/interactive-map-2009.html>.

Fall Preaching Convocation — Sept. 20-21

On Sept. 20-21 George W. Truett Theological Seminary (Baylor University campus in Waco) will host its annual Fall Preaching Convocation, featuring Bishop William Willimon. Registration for the two-day event is \$20 by Sept. 1, and \$30 thereafter. Online registration will be available by late July. Contact: Myles_Werntz@baylor.edu.

Depression Seminar in Your Church — FREE

Mental Health Facts from the Depression Connection Team: Mental illnesses are serious illnesses. They cannot be overcome through "will power" and are not related to a person's "character" or intelligence. The National Institute of Mental Health reports that one in four adults — approximately 57 million Americans — experience a mental health disorder in a given year. The U.S. Surgeon General reports that 10% of children and adolescents in the U.S. suffer from serious emotional and mental disorders that cause significant functional impairment in their day-to-day lives at home, in school and with peers. Most people diagnosed with a serious mental illness can experience relief from their symptoms by actively participating in an individual treatment plan. With no cost to your church, the CTC 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.

Twisted Logic: The Shadow of Suicide A Story of Hope for Those Haunted by Suicide or Suicidal Thoughts. Rev. Yong Hui McDonald. This book tells of the author's personal experiences with suicide and how others who have struggled with thoughts of suicide have been helped. It relates the steps and stages that are necessary to recover from the pain of grief and suicide and how to help those with suicidal thoughts. 132 pg. 2010

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.

Youth Minister

Wellspring UMC, located just 25 minutes south of Temple and 30 minutes north of Austin, seeks

a part-time youth minister. Applicants should be able to work with an established youth program and continue to build it. The position is part-time working with 10-20 youth for Sunday morning Sunday school and Sunday evening MYF. Mission trips and other activities are also a requirement. This position will also assist in leading the Sunday Morning Contemporary Worship Service and prepare youth for worship leadership. Spiritual maturity and a willingness to grow is a must. If you are interested, please submit your resume to admin@wellumc.org. The church is located at 6200 Williams Drive, Georgetown, TX 78628.

Spanish-Speaking Volunteers for 1-Time Event

Campus Drive UMC in Fort Worth needs of a Spanish-speaking hostess for an open house from 2 to 5 p.m. Sunday, Sept 18. If you are bilingual and would be willing to volunteer to assist Campus Drive UMC, please contact Shelia Hawkins at 817-478-6166.

P-T Organist/Music Associate

University UMC in Fort Worth seeks a part-time organist/music associate to begin Oct. 1. Primary responsibilities will include playing for one weekly Sunday morning worship service and for Wednesday evening rehearsals, and for choral accompaniment that requires use of the organ, and/or piano. Additional services during the year will include holy day services and accompanying the choirs for special events (funerals and weddings at an additional pay). The church has a 2 manual 27-rank Dan Garland pipe organ (installed in 1998) with 1564 pipes and 32-level memory system. The traditional worship format utilizes multiple styles of music and creative instrumentation, including orchestra for special occasions and services. The successful candidate will need to be a strong and creative congregational hymn accompanist. Salary is negotiable based upon experience. Send current resume with cover letter to Darin W. Hoppe, director of traditional music/worship arts, at dhoppe@universityumc.net or Darin W. Hoppe, University UMC, 2416 W. Berry St., Fort Worth 76110.

Youth Director

China Spring UMC seeks a youth director. Anyone who would be interested in more information, please call 254-836-1107.

Financial Secretary

Part-time financial secretary position open at Smithfield UMC in North Richland Hills. Job requires an average of 10 hours per week and a working knowledge of Quick Books and basic bookkeeping skills. High school diploma or equivalent is required. To apply, send resume to Lisa Neslony at pastorlisa@smithfieldumc.org or 6701 Smithfield Road, North Richland Hills 76182.

Volunteers Needed

Tarrant County Restorative Justice Center is in need of volunteers for occasional office support, sort and organize clothes and day-to-day operations. Also needed is clerical support for the upcoming L. Clifford Davis Program (graphic designs, prepare flyers, mail outs, draft letters for signature, etc.). If available, please contact Penny Yaites at 817-719-5978 or at 817-616-3100. Adults and youth opportunities available. Some items can be completed at your home.

Director of Student Ministries

University UMC, Fort Worth, seeks a half-time director of student ministries. Responsibilities include providing for the spiritual formation of students in 6-12 grades, including mid-week and Sunday activities, an annual mission trip, and the coordination of a midweek outreach ministry to Paschal High School. Applicants should be passionate about sharing the Gospel with students and have strong organizational skills. Experience in student ministry preferred. Resumes should be submitted to: jhamilton@universityumc.net.

Multiple Needs at Tolar UMC

- Tolar UMC is approaching a renovation and prayerfully searches for: a used, lightweight steeple; candle lighters and/or rack; shelving boards.
- Also, used Sunday school DVD Bible study materials for adults or teens; used copies of Max

Lucado's FEARLESS or FACING YOUR GIANTS; used Bibles (NRSV); used children's Christmas musicals, gospel music for choirs, paraments. Call 254-835-4005 and leave a message for Sunday a.m. or email shopjay3@pwhome.com, Helen Jones, 817-594-7940.

- Youth leader for grades 7-12. Tolar UMC is located between Granbury and Cedarville on Hwy 377. No experience necessary. Will train and send to train. Must be over 18, pass background check, enthusiastic, willing to lead and learn. Needed Sunday evening and special events. Sunday a.m. optional. For details, call 817-594-7940, Helen Jones, pastor.

- Guitar player for weekday rehearsal with choir and once a month Sunday a.m. Call 817-594-7940, Helen Jones, pastor.

Church Secretary

Silver Creek, a growing UMC in Parker County, seeks a church secretary who has experience as a financial secretary. 20 hours per week, beginning Aug. 23. Contact Vaughn Baker at 817-613-7659.

Financial Secretary

University UMC, Fort Worth seeks a part-time financial secretary. Applicants should be able to demonstrate strong accounting skills and possess experience in the financial field. Finance or business degree is preferred, but not required. Applicants may submit resume to Dana Boles at officemanager@universityumc.net.

Volunteers for Multiple Tasks

Diamond Hill UMC in North Fort Worth needs volunteers for summer and fall activities:

- Soccer Camp – Friday, July 30, Alliance UMC. Volunteers needed to teach children soccer, help with Bible S\tudies and music.

- * After school tutoring program – Beginning Mid August. Volunteers are needed to help tutor students and assist with their after school programming.

- Bilingual (Spanish speaking) individuals needed!

If you have the gift of working with children and are able to help, please call Laura or Osvaldo Benitez at 210-378-9283.

Financial Secretary

Part-time financial secretary position open at Smithfield UMC in North Richland Hills. Job requires an average of 10 hours per week and a working knowledge of Quick Books and basic bookkeeping skills. High school diploma or equivalent is required. To apply, send resume to Lisa Neslony at pastorlisa@smithfieldumc.org or 6701 Smithfield Road, North Richland Hills 76182.

Pianist/Organist

First UMC of Midlothian seeks pianist/organist with responsibilities for the 8:30 and 11 a.m. traditional worship services and special seasonal worship. Position available immediately. For detailed information contact Billy Pritchett at billyp@fumc-midlothian.org. A resume with cover letter may be sent to: First UMC of Midlothian c/o Billy Pritchett – Director of Music 800 S. 9th St., Midlothian, 76065.

Portable Kneeling Benches

Good News UMC in Cedar Park is in need of two or three portable kneeling benches for prayer and communion. Please contact Bob Rainey at bobrainey@austin.rr.com or 254-479-0241. We will pick up.

Mini-bus

Lorena UMC wants to buy a good, late-model mini-bus, 14+1 passenger or larger, low mileage. The church will pay cash; the need is now (or soon). Lorena UMC, 254-857-4283, 817-773-6959, lorenaumc@lorenaumc.org.

Organist

First UMC, Belton seeks an organist. If interested, contact Carol Scherer at 254-939-5703 or musicdir@vvm.com.

Part-time Multi-Media Technician

New World UMC in Arlington seeks an individual with working knowledge of all forms of media including soundboard, light table, personal computer, and CD recording technology. Incumbent must also be familiar with basic principles and operation for the maintenance and handling of theater lights, wireless and wired microphones, and multimedia projectors. Strong interpersonal communication skills, collaborative and helpful demeanor and a willingness to perform any work for which qualified are a must. Good aural skills and musical training would be a plus. The ideal candidate must be a team player who desires to be a servant to the membership while being a leader and coordinator in the multimedia aspect of church operations. For a full description of this position, go to <http://www.nwumc.org/jobs.php>. Interested individuals may send their resume to staff@nwumc.org.

Organist

First UMC of Waxahachie seeks an organist with primary responsibilities for the 8:30 and 11 a.m. traditional worship services, special seasonal worship, and accompanying the choir on occasional anthems. This position, which is available Oct. 3, is separate from the piano accompanist. The church's organ was built by Wicks Organ Company (opus 6428) and installed in May 2005. It includes three manuals, a pedal board, and is built to AGO specifications. For a detailed job description, please e-mail Ed Gibson, director of Music Ministries, at edchoir@aol.com or contact the church office at 972-937-4400. Résumés with a cover letter may be sent to: First UMC of Waxahachie, c/o Ed Gibson – Director of Music, 505 W. Marvin Ave., Waxahachie 75165

P-T Director of Youth Ministries

First UMC, Mineral Wells seeks a spiritually mature, dedicated Christian with a heart to make young disciples of Jesus Christ. Experience with youth ministry is preferred along with good communication and relationship building skills. A good understanding of Methodist doctrine is helpful. Will be responsible to plan/coordinate activities for 7 – 12 graders, including weekly Bible study, Sunday school, youth fellowship, fundraisers, and annual mission trips. Send resume to:

FUMC, PO Box 1466, Mineral Wells 76068 or contact church office at 940-325-4707 for more details.

Equipment for Hearing Impaired

Godley UMC has three hearing-impaired members who could benefit from amplification devices in worship. Churches that have updated their equipment recently are asked if they would donate their old equipment to Godley. If you can help, please contact Pastor Rudy Rudewick at Godley UMC ([samnrudy@sbcglobal.net](mailto:samn Rudy@sbcglobal.net).) This is a church that celebrated Easter Sunday with 14 Baptisms and 14 confirmations — 1 baptism and 2 confirmations of older adults.

Used Folding Machine Needed!

Stephenville Oakdale UMC needs a good used folding machine. If you have one that is no longer needed, please contact Steve Holston at 254-968-8870 or pastor@oakdaleum.org.

Director of Children's Ministry/Assistant Youth Director

First UMC of Azle has an opening for a director of children's ministry/assistant youth director. This person will work with the full-time youth director. The responsibilities of this full-time position will be to oversee all the elements of the children's ministry as well as be an assistant to the youth director in the areas of administration and programming. There will also be some teaching responsibilities involved. For further information or for a job description, please contact Dean Posey at dposey@fumcazle.org.

Organist/Pianist

Organist/pianist position open at Smithfield UMC in North Richland Hills. Duties include two services on Sunday mornings, Wednesday night rehearsal and special holiday services. To apply, send a resume to Lisa Neslony at 6701 Smithfield Rd, North Richland Hills 76182 or pastorlisa@smithfieldumc.org.

Pianist

Lakeside UMC at Richland Chambers Lake seeks a pianist for weekly Sunday service from 8 to 11:30 a.m. This paid position is available beginning June 1. If interested, please contact: Bill Brunson, chairman Staff Parish Relations Committee, at 903-599-4035 or Pastor Sandy Hippman at 903-599-3080.

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.