



# Central E-Link

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

## February 3, 2010

Welcome! This is the conference's weekly update to church leaders — lay and clergy. Articles/requests should be submitted to [Carolyn@ctcumc.org](mailto: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](mailto:susan@ctcumc.org).

Editor: Carolyn Stephens [Carolyn@ctcumc.org](mailto:Carolyn@ctcumc.org)

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See quick links under “Resources” for more news and resources

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## News Briefs — The Conference

### **2009 General Church Apportionments – 100%**

From CTC Treasurer Harvey Ozmer: Yes! It's a fact; the conference treasurer's office remitted the full amount of the 2009 General Church apportionments to GCFA during the third week of January. From what I have seen so far, we are one of only eight conferences who can say “We Did It!” Thank you so very much for your giving spirit. We all entered 2009 facing the challenges of economic uncertainty; yet, with hope and confidence in the promise that God provides all that is needful. Ministries continued, lives were changed, hope and confidence grew and the 305 churches of the Central Texas Conference gave \$10,946,878 in support of the ministry budget and an additional \$785,835 to many Advance Special Projects here and around the world. The year's giving totaled \$11,916,636. Again, thank you! You made a difference for Christ.

### **Kazakhstan Missionary Itinerates to CTC**

Dr. Chris Hena, UM GBGM Missionary to Kazakhstan, will be itinerating in the CTC from April 19 to May 15. A native of Liberia, Hena works with community health ministries in remote regions of Kazakhstan, a country that still suffers from its positioning as a nuclear/atomic waste disposal site during the Soviet era. If you are interested in hosting Hena in your church or attending a speaking engagement in another church, please contact Dawne McAlpin, CTC secretary of Global Ministries, at 817-326-4242 or [dawne@actonumc.org](mailto:dawne@actonumc.org).

### **More on Responding to Haiti Relief**

#### **\* FYI: Tax Relief**

A new law allows contributors to Haiti relief efforts to claim their cash donations on their 2009 tax returns, according to the Internal Revenue Service. The law, enacted Jan. 22, refers to donations for Haiti relief made to charitable organizations such as UMCOR after Jan. 11 and before March 1, 2010, whether these were made via text message, check, credit card or debit card. Taxpayers may make the deduction on either their 2009 or 2010 returns, but not both. Please visit [www.irs.gov](http://www.irs.gov) for more details.

#### **\* For Updates & New Developments**

Please continue to access the [www.umc.org/haiti](http://www.umc.org/haiti) website maintained by UM Communications for the most up-to-date national and conference-wide news, blogs, video and audio stories from within the UMC. In addition, there are downloadable print ads that can be customized, web graphics and other resources available for communicating with your congregation and your community. UMs everywhere are invited to

share a prayer for those affected by the Haiti earthquake. Visit the Facebook (<http://www.facebook.com/group.php?v=wall&ref=ts&gid=40517157677>) group [10thousanddoors.org](http://10thousanddoors.org) to lift up your praise or concern on the wall. If this tragedy has had an impact on you or your congregation in some personal way, you are invited to share your story by contacting Carolyn Stephens at [Carolyn@ctcumc.org](mailto:Carolyn@ctcumc.org). Later this week, we will be posting on the conference website ([www.ctcumc.org](http://www.ctcumc.org)) a personal story from members at Cleburne First UMC.

**\* Health Kits & Donations for People of Haiti**

UMCOR is asking for health kits (<http://new.gbgn-umc.org/umcor/getconnected/supplies/health-kit/>) and Laraine Waughtal, CTC disaster response coordinator, has arranged for drop off locations in each district. Kits must be delivered to the district locations by Thursday, Feb. 4. "We learned today that UMCOR made an error on their website concerning the information about health kits," according to Laraine. "They still need the \$1 for the toothpaste (which can be placed in the health kit bag) but they also need \$1 to help with shipping costs. We are asking that individuals/churches please provide the \$1 for shipping per kit that they bring to the drop off site for their district. Please make out the check to UMCOR from your church for the number of kits you are providing and give this check to the drop off site coordinator in your district. They, in turn, will give it to our delivery people to take to Sager Brown. We apologize for the inconvenience of this change in instructions."

Brownwood District (2 sites): First UMC, Stephenville & First UMC, Early

Fort Worth District: Saginaw UMC

Mid-Cities District: First UMC, Arlington

Temple District (2 sites): Wellspring UMC, Georgetown & Salado UMC

Waco District: Austin Avenue UMC, Waco

Waxahachie District: First UMC, Waxahachie

Weatherford District: First UMC, Weatherford

Laraine is asking churches to please pack their kits in boxes and mark the boxes with the number of kits in each box. The districts must bring their boxes to the central collecting point at First UMC, Hillsboro by **3 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 7**, to be transported immediately to the UMCOR Sager Brown Depot. First Hillsboro will have someone available to accept and help unload the boxes on Friday (Feb. 5) from 9 a.m. – noon and Saturday (Feb. 6) from 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.

**Singles Mission Trip to Dulac, La. — Feb. 11-15**

Chuck Graff, associate pastor at First UMC of Fort Worth, will lead this singles disaster response mission trip to Dulac, LA, over the President's Day weekend. It is open to all singles 18 years and older to serve in southern Louisiana with the recovery process from Hurricanes Katrina and Rita. The Tarrant Area Singles, the CTC and First UMC sponsor the trip. For more details and to register, please contact Chuck Graff as 817-339-5065 or [cgraff@myfumc.org](mailto:cgraff@myfumc.org).

**Black History Month and Lent at Meadowbrook — Feb. 14-17**

Meadowbrook UMC celebrates Black History Month and Lent with a lineup of top preachers Feb. 14-17:

**Sunday, Feb. 14** — Rev. Kyland Dobbins will bring the message at 10:50 a.m. worship and the Meadowbrook Choir will bring the anthem.

**Monday, Feb. 15** — Dr. Sylvester Key will bring the message at 6:30 p.m. and the McMillan Choir will bring the music for the evening.

**Tuesday Feb. 16** — Rev. Beverly Gilliam will bring the message at 6:30 p.m. and the Morningside Choir will bring the music for the evening.

**Ash Wednesday, Feb. 17** — Rev. Carol Gibson will bring the message at 6:30 p.m. and the St. Andrew Choir will bring the music.

**4th Annual Faith Community Leadership Summit with THR — Feb. 16**

The focus of this year's summit, set for 8:15 a.m. – 3 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 16, at Fort Worth's Round Up Inn, will be on end-of-life care, support and ministry. It brings together faith leaders from Tarrant and surrounding counties to dialogue and network, share best practices, provide needed resources, and equip

leadership for the challenges of the 21<sup>st</sup> century. For more details and to register, visit [www.texashealth.org/faithsummit](http://www.texashealth.org/faithsummit) or contact Laura Van Hoosier at [lauravanhoosier@texashealth.org](mailto:lauravanhoosier@texashealth.org), or 817-703-8432.

### **Central Texas Methodist Foundation Seminar — Feb. 18**

The Central Texas Methodist Foundation will conduct a two-part seminar on Feb. 18 at Arlington Heights UMC (4200 Camp Bowie Blvd., Fort Worth 76107). Registration begins at 8:30 a.m. with the “Clergy Tax” at 9 a.m. and the “Clergy Church Financial & Legal Issues” at 1 p.m. Please call or e-mail for reservations: 800-333-4096 or 817-332-1394 [kathy@ctmf.org](mailto:kathy@ctmf.org). Online registration at: <http://www.heartspringmethodist.org/about-us/2010-tax-seminars-ctmf.html>.

**Clergy Tax Seminar** — “how to” methods for clergy preparing their 2009 income tax return, as well as all of the relevant features in the IRS tax code specific to clergy; new provisions and tax code changes; geared for individual clergy but appropriate for their tax advisers, spouses, church leaders.

**Church Financial & Legal Issues** — church financial issues and legal implications; basic church finance & accounting, i.e. payroll administration, forms, documents and procedures related to the financial management of churches and related ministries such as pre-schools, parents-day-out, etc.

### **Racism from a White Person’s Perspective — Feb 21**

The UMC recognizes racism as a sin and affirms the value of all human beings. We recognize the gifts that racial and cultural differences add to our collective living. However, those of us who understand ourselves as White often are unaware of the benefits others do not experience that are available to us simply because of the color of our skin. Dr. Nancy Ramsay will explore the issue of white privilege, our unwitting complicity in racism and strategies in resisting racism for people of faith. Join Trinity UMC (3321 W. Park Row, Arlington) for this enlightening social justice discussion from 7 to 8:30 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 21, in Room 201-203. Parking on the east and south sides of the main building. Contact: Miriam Georg at [miriam@trinityumcarlington.org](mailto:miriam@trinityumcarlington.org).

### **Dancing with the Stars at Metro Board Annual Dinner — Feb. 25**

The Metropolitan Board of Missions Annual Dinner meeting, where outreach ministries and the churches that help to support them are honored, will be from 6 to 8 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 25, at Round Up Inn, Fort Worth. The dinner cost is \$15/person with reservations by Feb. 22. For reservations and more details, contact the Metro Board office at 817-569-1454 or [metroboard-umc@sbcglobal.net](mailto:metroboard-umc@sbcglobal.net).

### **7<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of CTC Lay Speakers — Feb. 26, 27, 28**

This annual event will be held Feb. 26-28 at Glen Lake Camp & Retreat Center in Glen Rose with the classes offered being those that receive the most interest during the registration processes. The list of courses and registration form are on the conference website under <http://www.ctcumc.org/pages/detail/933> / click on “7th Annual Lay Speaking Ministry Weekend.” Contact: Melissa Osborne at [oz2@txol.net](mailto:oz2@txol.net).

### **Marriage Course Offered at Texas Wesleyan — March 6**

*Growing Love in Christian Marriage* will be offered at Texas Wesleyan University from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, March 6. This course is certified by the State of Texas so that couples that participate will receive a certificate for a \$60 discount off their Texas marriage license. Amy Tate-Almy, AFC, a facilitator for the *Depression Connection Team* of Fort Worth and financial educator/counselor for the two Fort Worth Chapter 13 Trustee’s Offices, will lead the premarital counseling workshop. The cost of the workshop is \$7.50 per couple to learn skills to support a lasting, healthy marriage. RSVP to Amy Tate-Almy at [aatalmy@hotmail.com](mailto:aatalmy@hotmail.com). To make registration official, send the couple’s names with a \$7.50 fee (made payable to Texas Wesleyan University) to Attn: Chaplain’s Office, GLCM, Texas Wesleyan University, 1201 Wesleyan Street, Fort Worth 76105.

### **Five Day Academy for Spiritual Formation — March 7-12**

The Five Day Academy for Spiritual Formation will be held at The Prothro Center at Lake Texoma March 7-12. Dr. Elaine Robinson, dean of Saint Paul School of Theology-Oklahoma City, and Dr. Doug Skinner, senior minister of Northway Christian Church-Dallas, are the faculty presenters. For more information, a

brochure is located at [www.ctcumc.org](http://www.ctcumc.org) under Spiritual Growth Ministries, or contact Lindsay D. Churchman at [ldchurchman@sbcglobal.net](mailto:ldchurchman@sbcglobal.net).

### **D.E.A.L. Grant Applications Period Underway**

The CTC Committee on Disability Concerns will present the Disability Education and Awareness Leadership (D.E.A.L.) grants to be awarded in May and presented at the Annual Conference in June. A goal of the committee is education and awareness of handicapping conditions and issues facing an individual having a handicapping condition, i.e., attitudinal, environmental, or communicative. Because of this goal, CDC is awarding two grants to an upper classman or returning UM college student — one grant to a student that has a handicapping condition and another to a student that has a declared major in assisting individuals with handicapping conditions (i.e., special education, speech pathology, hearing and visual impairment, social work, counseling, physical and/or occupational therapies). The application and grant details are available at <http://ctsite.brickriver.com/pages/detail/894>.

### **Annual Volunteer Work Week at Mount Sequoyah — April 5-9**

Each year Mount Sequoyah hosts a volunteer work week for volunteers from all of the 15 conferences that make up the South Central Jurisdiction. The retreat center is in the heart of Fayetteville, Ark., at the top of a large hill overlooking the city. Mount Sequoyah is host to a number of workshops, meetings, retreats, and training opportunities for our jurisdiction. With the large numbers of guests attending events, the center is in constant need of maintenance and upkeep. The annual volunteer workweek is a time to make sure that big projects get done. For details, please visit [http://www.mountsequoyah.org/www.mountsequoyah.org/Programs\\_Training\\_files/FINALWW%20Brochure%202010-reg.pdf](http://www.mountsequoyah.org/www.mountsequoyah.org/Programs_Training_files/FINALWW%20Brochure%202010-reg.pdf).

### **April 15 Deadline for 5 Star/Global Mission Partner Applications**

The **Global Mission Partner Program** and the **Five-Star Program** recognize churches that accomplish a series of support and outreach goals. The requirements are on the conference website at <http://www.ctcumc.org/pages/detail/905>. Contact: Tom Beaty at [fumcgatesville1@embarqmail.com](mailto:fumcgatesville1@embarqmail.com).

### **UMVIM Team Leader Training — April 24**

*Training Event: 9 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Saturday, April 24, at Alliance UMC, Fort Worth*

UM Volunteers in Mission can be a vital tool in helping you and your church be more effective as partners in God's mission to a hurting and broken world, whether you take a team down the street, to your own community, to Haiti or elsewhere across the globe. Many local churches are planning mission projects for 2010. UMVIM team leader training is for beginners and seasoned leaders alike. Learn tips for all aspects of project planning, group theological reflection, team building, insuring your team, and fostering a transformational mission experience. For more details, contact Jennifer Bellamy at 817-877-5222 or [Jennifer@ctcumc.org](mailto:Jennifer@ctcumc.org).

### **Volunteers needed for the Texas Ramp Project**

The Texas Ramp Project provides free wheelchair ramps across Texas and seeks volunteers to help serve their many clients more quickly. The all-volunteer organization serves those disabled Texans who cannot afford the cost of construction of a ramp. For a number of clients, this ministry provides the only way for them to leave their homes and be part of their communities. The Texas Ramp Project works with churches of all denominations in the communities it serves in order to implement this important ministry. For details on volunteering, please visit [www.texasramps.org](http://www.texasramps.org) or contact leadership at [info@texasramps.org](mailto:info@texasramps.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 (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](http://www.ctcumc.org)) under health and wellness.

### **Adult Mission Trip to Sager Brown Depot — May 2-7**

The UMCOR Sager Brown Depot has shipped over \$4.7 million in relief supplies in 2008. Sager Brown receives, prepares, holds, and ships material resources used in response to human suffering throughout the nation and the world. Located in Baldwin, LA (about 115 miles southwest of New Orleans), the depot hosts more than 2,700 UM volunteers each year and provides those volunteers with a unique cultural experience. You can join the adult mission trip to Sager Brown May 2-7 by registering with Conference Director of Humanitarian Services Director Jennifer Bellamy. See details and registration form under UMVIM pages on the conference website [www.ctcumc.org](http://www.ctcumc.org).

### **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](mailto:dawne@actonumc.org) or 817-326-4252, 578-1701.

### **Save the CTC's 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration Date — Oct. 23**

Please reserve Saturday, Oct. 23, for the Central Texas Conference's 100th Anniversary Celebration from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Will Rogers's Texas Room. Event co-chairs Henry Radde and Gary Turner will have more details later.

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## **News Briefs — The Denomination**

### **Open Letter from President of the Methodist Church of Haiti**

*E-Link* generally refrains from attachments, but this week we bring you a letter from Rev. Gesner Paul, president of the Methodist Church of Haiti. It expresses thanksgiving from the Church in Haiti for the response UMCOR is leading after the devastation of the earthquake and is helpful in clarifying both the need for volunteers in the future and the wisdom of responding at the most appropriate time. Please take a moment to read (and heed) this information.

### **One Great Hour of Sharing - March 14**

She's only 26 years old and came to me in tears. In a whisper the girl said to me, "I'm afraid. I think I have AIDS, but please do not tell my family." Angie Willicore tells this woman's story to illustrate the terrible stigma of AIDS in Liberia. Angie is a registered nurse for Ganta UM Hospital in Liberia and head of the community-based HIV/AIDS counseling team. Gifts to One Great Hour of Sharing lay the foundation of all of UMCOR's work by covering the costs of doing business. This means all gifts designated to specific programs can go 100% to those programs because UMCOR's basic expenses are covered. Please give generously at [www.umcgiving.org/OGHS](http://www.umcgiving.org/OGHS). For the rest of Angie's story, visit <http://www.kintera.org/TR.asp?a=gnKPIPMnHdLLL2I&s=crIUK5OBLbLOK5NKJsH&m=hqLQJ4OzFgJ2G>.

### **Downloadable Ash Wednesday Contemporary Service**

Dean McIntye, director of music resources at the General Board of Discipleship, provides this free downloadable material for Ash Wednesday, Feb. 17: A Contemporary Service for Ash Wednesday from GBOD: [http://www.gbod.org/worship/default.asp?act=reader&item\\_id=48456](http://www.gbod.org/worship/default.asp?act=reader&item_id=48456).

### **Perkins to Waive Application Fee Through March 1**

Perkins School of Theology at SMU is waiving its \$50 application fee through March 1 for applicants to the Master of Divinity, Master of Theological Studies, Master of Church Ministries, and Master of Sacred Music degree programs, as well as for all non-degree applicants. March 1 is the deadline for submitting an application for need-based grant consideration, while Feb. 1 remains the deadline for submission of applications for merit scholarship consideration. For more information contact Tracy Anne Allred, director of Student Services, at [tallred@smu.edu](mailto:tallred@smu.edu) or 214-768-1480; Herbert Coleman, director of Recruitment and Admissions, at [hcoleman@smu.edu](mailto:hcoleman@smu.edu) or 214-768-2139; or visit the Perkins website at [www.smu.edu/perkins](http://www.smu.edu/perkins).

### **Deadline Extended to Feb. 15 for Ethnic Young Adult Summer Internships**

The deadline to apply for a 2010 Ethnic Young Adult (EYA) Summer Internship in Washington, D.C., has been extended to Feb. 15. For more information, contact Neal Christie, assistant general secretary, Education & Leadership Formation, General Board of Church & Society, 100 Maryland Ave. NE, Washington, D.C. 20002, 202-488-5611 or L.A. McCrae, EYA coordinator, 202-488-5644 (office) or 443-528-5138 (mobile).

### **2010 Funding Conference Scheduled for March 20**

The Lewis Center for Church Leadership will offer its annual *Funding Your Congregation's Vision* conference on Saturday, March 20. It will be held at Glen Mar UMC in Ellicott City, Maryland. Building on the Lewis Center's past work in funding ministry, this year's event will explore a number of new subject areas. Further details and registration information for the half-day workshop (9 a.m.-12:45 p.m.) will be available in January at [www.churchleadership.com](http://www.churchleadership.com).

### **Clergywoman's Gathering, "Living in Balance: Recapturing Our Creativity" — April 7-9**

April 7-9, 2010, at Mount Sequoyah Conference Center (150 NW Skyline Drive, Fayetteville, Ark.). The gathering will focus on recapturing our creativity as well as offering a time of renewal, learning and fellowship with other women in ministry. CEUs will be available. Contact: Kim Ross at [spiritualdirector@mountsequoyah.org](mailto:spiritualdirector@mountsequoyah.org) or 800-760-8126. Cost varies from \$325-\$285.

### **Wesley Pilgrimage in England — May 11-21**

<http://www.gbod.org/wesleypilgrimage>

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## **News Briefs — Local Congregations & Ministry Groups**

### **"Father Can You Hear Me?" Benefit Performance — Feb. 6**

"Father Can You Hear Me?" will be performed at 4 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 6th, at St. Barnabas UMC (5011 W. Pleasant Ridge, Arlington 76016-6220) with tickets (\$20) available at the door. The drama is a new gospel stage play presented by Special K's Special T's, LLC Productions, written and co-directed by Ka'Mili Grayson, and directed by Eric Beasley. The evening benefit will include an auction, liturgical dance and more. For details, please contact Luther Henry ([luther@sbumc.org](mailto:luther@sbumc.org) or 817-483-1667) or Chauncey Nealy ([aldersgate1954@sbcglobal.net](mailto:aldersgate1954@sbcglobal.net) or 17-274-0116).

### **The Power of Pause: Becoming More by Doing Less — Feb. 11**

Join Terry Hershey, author of *The Power of Pause: Becoming More by Doing Less*, for an evening of spiritual refreshment and practical training from 7 to 9 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 11, at Glen Lake Camp & Retreat Center, Glen Rose. Sponsored by Glen Lake Camp and First UMC of Glen Rose, this program is open to all who are interested in letting their souls catch up with their bodies. Practical and humorous, Hershey will teach participants how to lose what we don't need, how to make space to hear the heart, and much more. For more information about Hershey, visit [www.terryhershey.com](http://www.terryhershey.com). Free event, no registration required but you will have an opportunity to contribute to an honorarium for Hershey.

### **Clergy Power Lunch at GLC with Terry Hershey — Feb. 11**

Glen Lake Camp & Retreat Center and Terry Hershey, author of *The Power of Pause: Becoming More by Doing Less*, invite clergy of the CTC to enjoy a lunch with their fellow clergy and listen as Hershey share tools to help you bring balance to your life. The noon luncheon discussion stresses Hershey's philosophy of relax, refuel and restart as a great way for church leaders to rest, re-energize and take steps to find balance in their busy lives. Reservations (\$8/person) are due by Feb. 8. Visit Glen Lake's website at [www.glenlake.org](http://www.glenlake.org) or call 254-897-2247.

### **Prayer Retreat at Campus Drive — Feb. 13**

*Deeper Connection: A Prayer Retreat That Will Take Your Prayer Life Out of the Box* will be offered from 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 13, at Campus Drive UMC. This event is for those who want to jump-start their prayer life and want a deeper connection to God. Facilitating the study will be Alfie Wines, pastor at Grace UMC, Arlington; Lonsetta Allen, executive director for the Institute for Educational Excellence; Carolyn Wilson, Genesis UMC, Fort Worth; and Ramona Redwine, First UMC, Fort Worth. There is no cost, but a love offering will be welcome. Contact: 817-922-9256.

### **Community Invited: Goostree Lecture Series — Feb. 21 and 22**

First UMC of Fort Worth will host the 2010 Goostree Lecture Series Sunday, Feb. 21, and Monday, Feb. 22, with J. Philip Newell presenting "A New Harmony: The Spirit, The Earth, and The Human Soul." The schedule for this two-day opportunity:

Sunday: Preaching in the Sanctuary at 9:30 and 11 a.m.; Lecture in the Sanctuary at 6 p.m.

Book signing and reception in Wesley Hall at 7:30 p.m.

Monday: Breakfast for *Clergy and Church Leaders* in Wesley Hall at 9 a.m.

(Please RSVP to Virginia ([vcovaleski@myfumc.org](mailto:vcovaleski@myfumc.org) or 817-336-7277) by Thursday, Feb. 18. Cost of the breakfast lecture is \$12.

Lecture for all in the Sanctuary at 7 p.m.

### **African-American History Month Generosity Summit — Feb. 27**

This is a workshop for clergy, finance/stewardship committees and lay leaders from 1 a.m. to noon Feb. 27 at Campus Drive UMC (4301 Campus Drive, Fort Worth 76119). The presenter is Melvin Amerson who is with the Texas Methodist Foundation and author of *Celebrating the Offering and Stewardship in African-American Churches*. He will cover "Developing a Culture of Generosity" and "Celebrating the Offering." To reserve your space by Feb. 20, contact Andrew Nunley at 817-921-5673 or [pastor@campusdrive.org](mailto:pastor@campusdrive.org).

### **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 more details, visit <http://www.eo.travelwithus.com>. Interested?

Contact Steve Lallier at 817-424-5704, 214-912-1979 or email [BigBandLdr@aol.com](mailto:BigBandLdr@aol.com).

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## **Resources**

### **Helpful Links for Church Leaders**

**Central Texas Conference:** ([www.ctcumc.org](http://www.ctcumc.org)) features and other content changes daily

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

**UM Reporter Interactive:** ([www.umportal.org](http://www.umportal.org))

**United Methodist News Service:**

([http://www.umc.org/site/c.lwL4KnN1LtH/b.1355375/k.FA13/UMNS\\_News.htm](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=edIKIWPrgIWF>)

**UMNS on Twitter:**

(<http://www.kintera.org/TR.asp?a=olL5LeMPLLeKYLpI&s=chKUK5NBKbLQI5OKKsG&m=edIKIWPrgIWF>)

**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](http://www.umc.org/site/c.lwL4KnN1LtH/b.4407745/k.89CF/Global_Health.htm))

### **Mental Health Facts**

An abundance of new information in the mental health field has produced some good news. The good news is that those of us who have depression and related conditions have a better potential for health and productivity; and those who do not have the disorders can better understand and support those that do.

— A message from the Depression Connection Team (817-810-9599; [tony@depressionconnection.org](mailto:tony@depressionconnection.org)).

### **Depression Seminar in Your Church, Free**

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, call Tony Campbell at 817/810-9599 or email at [tony@depressionconnection.org](mailto:tony@depressionconnection.org).

### **ATTN: Pastors/Stephen Ministers Can Help Cancer Patients**

Here's a contact that might help cancer patients cope with one aspect of every-day living. Fighting cancer is difficult enough, but living with it is even tougher - and that's where the Cleaning for A Reason Foundation steps in. This newly formed nonprofit organization offers free professional housecleaning and maid services to improve the lives of women undergoing treatment for cancer - **any type of cancer**. If you know any woman currently undergoing chemotherapy, please pass along this free cleaning service — 1 time per month for 4 months — while she is in treatment. All she has to do is sign up and have her doctor fax a note confirming the treatment. Cleaning for a Reason will have a participating maid service in her zip code area arrange for the service. <http://cleaningforareason.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.

**Food & Faith.** Wendy Whiteside. This spiritual growth mission study is about how faith is nurtured, strengthened, and enhanced by food and all the ways food touches our lives. It explores the ways food creates community, offers hospitality to strangers, and expands one's concept of "neighbor." The rituals of feasting and fasting remind us of our need for God. Above all, our most profound sacrament, the Holy Communion, is food. 179 pages including leader's guide portion. GBGM 2009

### **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](mailto:Vicki@ctcumc.org).

### **Crime Victims Council Information at [www.crimevictimsCouncil.org](http://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](mailto:encouragement@crimevictimsCouncil.org).

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## **Needs, Resources, Opportunities**

**NOTE TO LISTERS:** Please contact Carolyn Stephens at [Carolyn@ctcumc.org](mailto:Carolyn@ctcumc.org) to pull your listing when your opening has been filled.

### **Worship Leader**

New Day UMC ([www.ndumc.com](http://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](mailto: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](mailto:robert@fumccleburne.com).

### **Director of the Learning Tree Preschool**

First UMC, Georgetown is accepting resumes until Feb. 26 for director of the Learning Tree Preschool. The preschool is a FUMC outreach operated Tuesday through Thursday during the school year. Candidates should have the leadership skills and educational background to develop and implement plans that will maintain a level of program quality that meets the National Association of Educators of Young Children (NAEYC) standards for developmentally appropriate curriculum. The director is responsible for the effective and efficient operation of the school, which includes staff development, communication with parents, scheduling, budgeting, and procurement of supplies and equipment. A bachelor's degree with 12 college credit hours in child development and 6 college credit hours in business management and at least one year of experience in a licensed child-care center are preferred. Interested persons may submit a letter of interest, resume, and the names, addresses, and phone numbers of three professional references to Dotty Hooker, director of Christian Education, FUMC, 410 E. University Avenue, Georgetown 78626 or [dotty@fumcgt.org](mailto:dotty@fumcgt.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](mailto:pastorlisa@smithfieldumc.org).

### **Community Center Program Coordinator**

Acton UMC is recruiting for a ½ time (20 hrs/wk) Rancho Brazos Community Center program coordinator. The position requires a bachelor's degree with experience in community ministry and a passion for loving the world with the grace of Jesus Christ. The ability to speak Spanish is preferred. Responsibilities include working with the Rancho Brazos Leadership Team to organize and/or lead Bible studies; build relationships with the community that empower community leadership; develop and grow ministries such as ESL, GED and adult literacy classes, coordinate Vacation Bible School, after-school programming, summer lunch and activity programming, women's and youth ministry; and related outreach ministry. The position will also develop partnerships with other community and conference organizations and encourage avenues for ministry for the congregation at AUMC. Interested persons should submit a resume and letter of interest to: Dawne McAlpin, Minister of Outreach, 3433 Fall Creek Hwy., Granbury 76049 or [dawne@actonumc.org](mailto:dawne@actonumc.org).

### **Director of Recreation**

Glen Lake Camp & Retreat Center is hiring a director of recreation. This position reports directly to the executive director and works closely with other departments in offering a well-planned, safe and fun environment for guests. Areas of responsibility include inventory of recreation equipment, Eagles' Wings Challenge & Confidence Course, the Waterpark, summer staff, program publicity, and hosting guest

retreats and events. On site housing is included in compensation. To apply, please mail resume with references to P. O. Box 928, Glen Rose 76043 or fax to 254-897-2423.

### **Assistant Pastor/Focus on Youth & Missions**

First UMC in Breckenridge seeks an enthusiastic person to further develop, organize, and lead a comprehensive youth ministry with a breadth of perspective and balance of ministry. This will include leading and involving the youth in the *Five Practices of Fruitful Youth Ministry*. There is also opportunity to assist and lead in worship and other areas of pastoral ministry as desired and time allows.

*Hours:* 24 hours per week. Some planning and writing may be done off premises. *Compensation includes:* Salary, contribution to UM Pension program, reimbursement for reasonable expenses and cell phone to a certain amount and monies for continuing education. Sick leave, holidays and vacation according to office staff policy. For more information or to express interest contact Jeff Miller, FUMC, 419 West Walker, Breckenridge, Texas 76424. E-mail: [pastor@firstumcbreckenridge.org](mailto:pastor@firstumcbreckenridge.org).

### **Volunteers Needed**

Please pass along this message to church members: Tarrant County United Way needs volunteers at tax preparation centers from January through mid-April, including the United Community Center's Wesley Center in North Fort Worth. Helping low-income families obtain tax credits is an important way volunteers can join United Way in making Tarrant County residents more financially stable and self-sufficient. Last year, volunteers helped Tarrant County families receive more than \$2.4 million in earned income tax credits and more than \$2 million in child tax credits. The IRS estimates that Tarrant County citizens are actually eligible for about \$100 million in tax credits. Most credits are not claimed. For details or to volunteer, contact Pablo Calderon at 817-258-8056 or visit [www.unitedwaytarrant.org](http://www.unitedwaytarrant.org).

### **2010 Census Workers**

Please pass along this message to members: Could you use some extra cash? Apply now to be a census taker. Work up to 40 per week in a temporary, part-time job with the 2010 Census and enjoy good pay, flexible hours, mileage reimbursement, and the chance to serve your community. Call (toll-free) 866-861-2010 for more details.

### **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.

### **Choir Director**

Wesley UMC in Waco seeks a spirit-filled, passionate director for the adult and children's choirs. Must read music, be able to teach and lead choir members in both traditional gospel and contemporary worship. Contact: Theora Davis at 254-752-1822.

### **Youth Director**

Wesley UMC in Waco seeks a part-time youth director committed to spiritual formation and mission. The successful candidate will be available Sundays, Wednesday evenings, and some planning and meeting time, not totaling more than 20 hours per week. Wesley UMC is committed to making disciples for the transformation of the world, beginning with our children and youth. Please contact Evelyn Vonner at 254-752-1822.

### **Part-time Pianist**

First UMC of Cross Plains seeks a part-time pianist. Some of the responsibilities include preparing and playing for chancel choir rehearsals, weekly worship services (including prelude, postlude and offertory), and special worship services and events, in addition to working with organist, and music director. Pianist must be available for Advent & Christmas holiday season as well as for Lent, Holy Week and Easter.

Candidate must work well with others, and be able to play a variety of music styles. If interested, e-mail resume to [fumccrossplains@gmail.com](mailto:fumccrossplains@gmail.com) or mail to: FUMC, P.O. Box 160, Cross Plains 76443. For additional information, call the church office at 254-725-7377.

### **Part-time Post Contemporary Music Worship Leader**

William C. Martin UMC (2621 Bedford Rd., Bedford, TX 76021) is accepting applications for a music worship leader in Martin's post contemporary worship service. Candidates should be able to provide voice and instrumental (acoustic guitar) leadership in our worship environment. Candidate will work with an established band with a post contemporary flair. Experience in Worship planning and execution with the band and minister are essential to the job. The position is part-time and salary is dependent on experience. Submit applications to Adam Pratt at [adamp@martin-methodist.org](mailto:adamp@martin-methodist.org).

### **Youth Minister**

Church seeking full-time youth minister with a heart for Christ, for youth, and for the church in Midlothian (Waxahachie area). Needs education and experience in leading youth in their spiritual development, worship, understanding of ministry, and willingness to be in mission/witness to the world beyond the church walls. Must be able to lead/teach with an appreciation for mainline theological doctrines rather than literalist or fundamentalist interpretations of scripture. Primary youth activities on Sundays and Wednesday evenings. Salary: \$32,000 + housing in the church's large parsonage. Midlothian is a suburban town 10 miles south of the Dallas/Fort Worth area, near several major seminaries. Successful applicant will demonstrate a high degree of professionalism living up to standards of reliability, honesty, attitude, dress, and behavior expected by the ministerial nature of the position. Contact: Allyson Paxton at [pastorpaxton@aol.com](mailto:pastorpaxton@aol.com).

*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](mailto:Susan@ctcumc.org).*