



Central E-Link

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

January 12, 2011

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. Editor: Carolyn Stephens Carolyn@ctcumc.org

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

News Briefs — The Conference

If We Missed Your Notice

The conference server crashed overnight last Thursday/Friday and some e-mails may have been lost. If you sent information about an upcoming event, activity or an item for the "Needs, Resources, Opportunities" section of *E-Link* and it has not been included in this issue, please resend and we'll include it next week. Sorry for any inconvenience.

A Message from Conference Treasurer Harvey Ozmer

Even before the conference finance officers can get the 2010 year-end close out completed, we are already celebrating the 2011 apportionment contributions of two specific local churches: St. James UMC, Temple (Quinton Gibson, pastor) and Thrall UMC (Travis Summerlin, pastor). Hats off to these two Temple District congregations. They have already submitted their 2011 apportionments in full. Both churches remitted 100% of their connectional giving at the same time last year as well. My hope is that when Dec. 31, 2011, arrives, all 303 CTC churches will have their names listed as 100% Connectional Giving Churches.

Imagine No Malaria District Meetings

The Imagine No Malaria initiative is ramping up in the Central Texas Conference with informative workshops scheduled in each district. Click on http://ct.brickriver.com/files/oFiles_Library_XZXLCZ/1_TRRN6H9X.11.11_Article_submission_CTX.pdf for a complete schedule and details for your area.

Clergy Appointment Changes

Bishop Mike Lowry and the Cabinet announce the following changes in clergy appointments:

- **Janice L. Baldwin** (elder in full connection)
— from pastor at Ferris Heights UMC, Waxahachie to incapacity leave, effective Feb. 1.
- **Andrew Decker** (elder in full connection)
— from leave of absence/family to surrender of credentials, Par. 360.3, effective Dec. 10, 2010.
- **Edward D. George** (elder in full connection)
— from senior chaplain at Texas Health Resources to associate at White's Chapel UMC, Southlake, effective Jan. 1.
- **Margaret Ann Holmes** (part-time local pastor)
— from pastor of the Palo Pinto/Strawn charge to unappointed, effective Jan. 15.
- **Crystal L. Hughes** (full-time local pastor)
— from associate at First Hurst UMC to unappointed, effective Jan. 1.

- **James N. Newton** (elder in full connection)
— from extension ministries: Hugworks to retired, effective Jan. 31.
- **Jayme D. Palady** (part-time local pastor)
— from supply pastor to half-time pastor at Winters UMC, Brownwood District, effective Jan. 1.
- **Sharon Robertson** (elder in full connection)
— from pastor of the Hico/Pleasant Hill charge to pastor at Hico UMC, effective Jan. 1.
- **Beverly Tye** (elder in full connection)
— from pastor of Asbury UMC, Fort Worth to retired, effective Feb. 1.

Next Haiti Mission Trip Planning Meeting — Jan. 17

Laraine Waughtal, conference coordinator for Disaster Response and pastor at Buff Dale and Morgan Mill UMCs, will be leading a mission trip to Haiti Oct. 5-13. Anyone interested in being a part of the mission team or wanting to support the group is welcome to attend the preliminary planning meeting at 7 p.m. Monday, Jan. 17, at Morgan Mill. Details of what to expect, approximate costs, what to bring and other information will be given discussed. Questions? Contact Waughtal at 254-595-1503.

Approaching Deadlines

Feb. 1 is the deadline to submit recommendations to the Committee on Rules, Policies and Guidelines regarding changes to the Standing Rules and to submit resolutions to the Conference Secretary. ***Please remember that, per a motion approved at the 2008 Annual Conference, a statement of rationale must be included with the resolution clarifying the author's intent.***

FREE MissionInsite Training — Feb. 3

MissionInsite, the next generation in mission context analysis, will be presented FREE from 9 to 11 a.m. Feb. 3 at First Hurst UMC's Fellowship Hall (521 W. Pipeline Road, Hurst 76053). A demonstration of this incredibly helpful demographics resource is being offered to local churches through the conference's office of Church Growth & Development. Email Vicki@ctcumc.org if you plan to attend. Feel free to check out MissionInsite at www.missioninsite.com. The pdf document attached to last week's E-Link will help you get signed in.

A Faith Conversation On Immigration

CTC United Methodist Women - Charter for Racial Justice Event - "Sing A Rainbow"

Feb. 5 at Burleson FUMC (590 NE McAlister Rd., Burleson)
9 a.m.- coffee/snacks/check-in, 10 a.m. program, 3 p.m. dismissal
Leaders Amy Spaur, Mary Beth Garcia and Judy Holloway
Lunch will be a covered dish. Child Care will be provided.
Please register so that we have the appropriate number of staff for the day.
Any questions? Contact Cynthia Rives at 254-968-5785

Safe Sanctuaries Training — Restarts January 2011

The CTC online Safe Sanctuaries course is available again. If you or someone in your church is interested in completing their Safe Sanctuaries training in this format, contact Karen Granderson, 817-877-5222, 800-460-8622, or karen@ctcumc.org.

Christian Educator's Fellowship Gathering — Jan. 27

12 noon – 2 p.m. at FUMC-Hurst

The Changing Face of Christian Education - Dr. Susanne Johnson

Calling all Christian educators, volunteers, staff, clergy, lay, children, youth, and adult ministries. It is time to re-establish the connection and re-birth the CTC's Christian Educator's Fellowship Chapter with this time of fellowship, lunch, and a thought-provoking presentation and discussion led by Dr. Susanne Johnson, professor of Christian education at Perkins and author of "Christian Spiritual Formation in the Church and Classroom." The new chapter goal is to meet three times a year: January, at Annual Conference, and September. The cost for lunch is \$8. Please send reservation to Robin Stevens at robins@kellerumc.org no later than Thursday, Jan. 20. Make your New Year's resolution to reconnect!

Children's Ministry Forum 2011 — Feb. 22-24

Children's Ministry Forum 2011 can help you refresh and renew your children's ministry and build disciples. The General Board of Discipleship offers this event every year in different places around the country. This one is nearby, so most can afford the travel expenses. If you are from a small church and would like to receive some assistance to attend, contact Karen Granderson at 817-877-5222, 800-460-8622 or karen@ctcumc.org. Link to more details at http://www.gbod.org/site/c.nhLRJ2PMKsG/b.6367321/k.5C5D/Childrens_Ministry_Forum.htm.

Task Force on Hunger Seeks 2011 Applicants

Each year the CTC Task Force on Hunger designates recipients for the *Thanksgiving* offering. The offering is split 90/10 with recipients rotating annually between local and global ministries. This year the offering will go to:

- 90% Central Texas Conference Hunger Ministries
- 10% Haitian Creole Pig Project, Advance # 418002

To download a flyer with details about the grant, for a two-week Bible study to accompany the *Thanksgiving* offering (*Hunger: The Enemy at the Table, A Bible Study on Hunger*), and an application for the 2011 Hunger Ministry Grants, please visit the conference website at <http://ctcumc.org/pages/detail/902>. The application deadline is March 31.

2011 Clergy Day Apart: Yearning for Spring — Feb. 1-2

The 2011 Clergy Time Apart features Dr. Elaine A. Heath, the McCreless associate professor of Evangelism at Perkins School of Theology and director of the Center for Missional Wisdom at SMU, and Ed Kilbourne, popular singer, storyteller and folk theologian. Heath will lead 3 sessions as keynote speaker as well as preach at the closing worship service. Several CTC clergy will lead various workshops. Kilbourne is most known for his collections of moving music, quirky humor and insightful monologues. He combines his acoustic guitar and singing with a storytelling style often compared to that of Garrison Keillor, the radio humorist from 'Lake Wobegon.' The time apart will be held Feb. 1-2 at Summers Mill Retreat & Conference Center (1991 Stagecoach Road/IH 35 N) in Salado, with free time on Tuesday evening to relax, share, fellowship and community building. Accommodations are for single room, double room, clergy couple and commuter rate. This event is open to all ordained, commissioned and/or licensed and appointed clergy. For a brochure and online registration, please click on the "Clergy Growth Opportunities" banner in the lower right quadrant of the conference website (www.ctcumc.org).

One Great Day of Mission! — Feb. 26

The clergy and laity of the Weatherford district will be working across the district — from Young to Somervell Counties in five different mission areas — from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 26. The goal is to get every pastor and at least 2 lay persons from every church involved in hands-on mission to the communities — both large and small. Bishop Lowry will be leading in Communion for the closing worship that day. Host congregations are located in Springtown, Graham, Mineral Wells, Cleburne and Glen Rose.

News Briefs — The Denomination

UM Responses to the Shooting in Tucson

After shootings, Arizona churches pray: (UMNS) Responding to the Jan. 8 shootings in Tucson, Ariz., UMs around the world are joining in prayer for the six killed and more than dozen wounded. U.S. Rep. Gabrielle Giffords, D-Ariz., the apparent target, remains in critical condition. <http://www.umc.org/site/apps/lnet/content3.aspx?c=IwL4KnN1Lth&b=5700485&ct=9005865&tr=y&auid=7613070>.

Board of Church & Society urges calmer discourse: (UMNS) - The UM Board of Church and Society joins the nation in grieving the shooting incident Jan. 8 in which six people,

including a 9-year-old girl, were killed in Tucson, Ariz. Top executive Jim Winkler said in a statement that the agency staff is praying for comfort for those families affected by the tragedy. While many factors seem to have contributed to the shooting, Winkler said, the agency joins with Republicans and Democrats in calling for less vitriolic rhetoric in political debate. "The use of vicious language in political discourse, even metaphorically, only adds to a climate of fear and anger," Winkler said. "Such language prevents a coherent dialogue that leads to solutions for the problems that society faces." The agency also called for making gun ownership to become a more responsible process. "The UMC is deeply concerned with gun violence," Winkler said. "The gunman used a weapon bought legally, but if the ban on assault weapons that unfortunately lapsed in 2004 had remained in place, then the 30-round clip he used would have been illegal. Yes, the gunman still could have inflicted a tremendous amount of harm, but it would have been dramatically reduced."

United Methodist shooting victim off critical list: Pam Simon, a member of St. Francis in the Foothills UMC in Tucson, was injured in the shootings that claimed six lives and critically injured U.S. Rep. Gabrielle Giffords. Simon serves on Giffords' staff. In an e-mail to the congregation, lay pastor Rolland "Rolly" Loomis said, "We received the good news that her (Simon's) condition is not critical. Alex Villec, 19, an intern for the Congresswoman and also a beloved member of St. Francis, witnessed the incident but was not injured."

Arizona bishop asks for prayers after shootings: Bishop Minerva G. Carcaño is calling for prayers of healing following the Jan. 8 shootings in Tucson that left six dead and more than a dozen - including U.S. Rep. Gabrielle Giffords - wounded. The bishop expressed concern about whether the shooting was an expression of "growing intolerance." For more details, <http://www.umc.org/site/apps/nlnet/content3.aspx?c=IwL4KnN1Lth&b=5259669&ct=9003985&tr=y&aid=7606296>.

Fighting Modern Day Slavery

(UMNS) — The U. S. State Department's "2010 Trafficking in Persons Report" <http://www.state.gov/g/tip/rls/tiprpt/2010/?tr=y&aid=7613136> says some 12.3 million adults and children are in forced labor, bonded labor and forced prostitution around the world, including 17,000 in the U.S. Fifty-six percent globally are women and girls. *Interpreter Magazine* reports how UMs are fighting human trafficking. Read the full story at <http://interpretermagazine.org/interior.asp?ptid=43&mid=14334&tr=y&aid=7613077> and access United Methodist Women's "Intercept Human Trafficking" held on Super Bowl Sunday (Feb. 6) at <http://new.gbqm-umc.org/umw/act/alerts/item/index.cfm?id=318&tr=y&aid=7613101> and an interactive slideshow at <http://new.gbqm-umc.org/umw/?tr=y&aid=7613255>.

5 Tips to Strengthen Your Worship Music

Whether you are singing a hymn, praying quietly to yourself or dancing like King David, it's all worship if your heart is in the right place. Worship takes many different forms, but a good music ministry is key to creating a hospitable environment for worshipping God. <http://www.umcom.org/site/apps/nlnet/content3.aspx?c=mrLZJ9PFKMG&b=6084879&ct=8860019¬oc=1&tr=y&aid=7590201>.

Bishop Carcaño Receives Perkins Distinguished Alumna Award

Bishop Minerva G. Carcaño has been named recipient of the 2011 Distinguished Alumna Award by the Alumni/ae Council of Perkins School of Theology, Southern Methodist University. The singular award recognizes annually one graduate of Perkins who has demonstrated effectiveness and integrity in service to the church, continuing support and involvement in the goals of Perkins and SMU, distinguished service in the wider community, and exemplary character. In 2004, Bishop Carcaño became the first Hispanic woman to be elected to the episcopacy of the UMC. Today, she is one of 69 active bishops leading the denomination worldwide. She currently serves as Bishop of the Phoenix Episcopal Area, Desert Southwest Conference, and is the official spokesperson for the Council of Bishops on the issue of immigration. Bishop Carcaño received a Masters of Theology from Perkins in 1979 and also led the Mexican American Program at Perkins as director from 1996-2001. The award will be presented at 6:15 p.m. Monday, Feb. 7, during a

dinner in Bishop Carcaño's honor as part of Perkins' Ministers Week
<http://www.smu.edu/Perkins/PublicPrograms/MinWeek/February2011.aspx>.

Ministers Week at Perkins School of Theology — Feb. 7-9

Perkins School of Theology, Southern Methodist University, will host Ministers Week Feb. 7-9 at the Hughes-Trigg Student Center on the SMU campus. "What's a Christian to Do? – Thinking Faithfully about War and Peace in Troubled Times" is the theme for this year's gathering.

- Joseph L. Allen, Professor *Emeritus* of Ethics at Perkins, will present the opening lecture, "Onward, Christian Soldiers? Christian Thinking on War and Peace."
 - Miguel De La Torre, Professor of Social Ethics at Iliff School of Theology in Denver will present the Barton Lecture, "The Consequences of U.S. Wars in Latin America for Hispanics."
 - Nicole L. Johnson, Assistant Professor, Philosophy & Religious Studies at the University of Mount Union in Ohio will present the Women's Lecture, "War, Nonviolence and Methodist Doctrine."
 - Laura J. Bender, Command Chaplain, USS *New York* will present the Martin Lecture, "Military Ministry: Religion, Conflict, and the Realities of War."
 - Robin W. Lovin, Cary Maguire University Professor of Ethics at SMU will present the Faculty Lecture, "Shaping the Emerging Global Order: Christianity, War, and the Nation-State."
 - The Fondren Lectures, "Dialogues on War and Peace," feature four eminent theologians, including: J. Philip Wogaman, Professor *Emeritus* of Christian Ethics at Wesley Theological Seminary in Washington, D.C.; Glen Harold Strassen, Lewis B. Smedes Professor of Christian Ethics at Fuller Theological Seminary in California; D. Stephen Long, Professor of Systematic Theology at Marquette University in Milwaukee, Wisconsin; and Kevin M. Carnahan, Assistant Professor of Philosophy & Religion at Central Methodist University in Missouri.
- Registration, pricing, event details, and lodging information are available at smu.edu/perkins/publicprograms. For additional information, call 214-768-2251 or email AdvanceMinistry@smu.edu.

Training for Developing Hispanic-Latino Ministries-Module 1 — March 13-18

The Lay Missioner and Pastor/Mentor Training for Developing Hispanic-Latino Ministry – Module I (bilingual) will be held March 13-18 at Perkins School of Theology's Prothro Hall in Dallas. This training is for laypersons and their pastors/mentors who wish to participate in Hispanic/Latino ministries as a part of the National Plan for Hispanic/Latino Ministry. Module I training is an integral part of the national plan and provides participants with the experience of practical curriculum and guidelines for use in the development of ministries with Hispanics/Latinos. The contact for more details and to register is Cristina Uranga in the Mexican American office at curanga@smu.edu or 214-768-2265.

Small Church Leadership Institute — March 20-24

Equipping Laity & Pastors with the Knowledge and Skills for leading their small attendance church into future at Mount Sequoyah Conference Center, Fayetteville, Ark., March 20-24. Register at: www.mountsequoyah.org.

Empowering Young People as World Changing Disciples of Jesus Christ — July

July 13-17 on the campus of Purdue University, Indiana, and July 27-31 at the convention center in Sacramento, Calif. Find much more information by using the following links:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YJZrZueO6WMM> and <http://www.youth2011.org>.

Mission Experiences Available for UM Youth in 2011

Youth from UMCs around the nation can learn what it means to serve others next summer by participating in week-long mission work experiences in Nashville that help children, the elderly, the homeless and people with special needs. For the second year, the youth mission trips will be sponsored jointly by Young People's Ministries, a division of The General Board of Discipleship (GBOD), and YouthWorks!, a multi-denominational youth mission organization, and will be hosted at McKendree UMC in downtown Nashville. The mission experience is open to youth who will enter the 7th grade in the fall of 2011 through current high school seniors. Eight weeklong sessions will be available in 2011, beginning the week of June 12 and ending the week of July 31.

Cost is \$248 per person. For more information, visit www.youthworks.com and click on the link for UMCs in the left column.

Sexual Ethics Summit — Jan. 26-29

“Do No Harm 2011,” a UM summit addressing prevention of and response to abuse, misconduct and harassment of a sexual nature, particularly by persons in ministerial roles, will be Jan. 26-29 at First UMC Houston. This sexual ethics event will provide opportunities for conference leaders to share best practices, discuss emerging issues, and network across the denomination. Workshops will provide understanding, skill building and grounding for participants to clarify their roles and to coordinate their efforts with others as the church addresses problems of sexual abuse and misconduct. Workshops are divided into five categories, each with several sessions to choose from: Prevention, Cyber Safety, Response to Sexual Misconduct, Legal Issues, and Sexuality and Social Justice. “Do No Harm” is for annual conference response teams, and others who coordinate ministries related to sexual ethics and boundaries in ministerial relationships. At least two persons from each annual conference are expected to attend. Conference leaders endeavoring to start or invigorate a Response Team or Safe Sanctuaries Team are especially encouraged to attend. The event can accommodate 250 registered attendees. For details and registration, visit www.umsexualethics.org.

2011 Winter Pastors’ School — Feb. 10-12

The Kyle Lake Center for Effective Preaching at the George W. Truett Theological Seminary in Waco offers the 2011 Winter Pastors’ School Feb. 10-12 featuring Dr. Richard B. Hays, dean and George Washington Ivey Professor of New Testament at Duke Divinity School.

Local Congregations & Ministry Groups

Volunteer Opportunity

Pantagleize Theatre (1400 Henderson St., Building No. 3/at Rio Grande Ave, Fort Worth 76103 <http://www.pantatheatre.org>) is a 501(3)c non profit corporation that provides international live theatrical performances for the community including theatrical learning opportunities for youth in conjunction with local schools including Tarrant County College. When Pantagleize moved into its present location near the historic old Public Market building (built in 1930) in October, the owners made the third building available. Volunteers have been renovating to bring the old building interior up to standards and ready for performances. But there are a few things remaining things to be done that require a plumber and HVAC professional. The theatre needs someone who can do this as a volunteer or trade out for advertising. Contact David Ruffin, current Board of Directors president, at 817-798-6586 or david.ruffin@fwisd.org.

Financial Peace University at New World — Jan. 25

Make your New Year's resolution and find Financial Peace at New World UMC (2201 N. Davis, Arlington) as they host the 13-week Dave Ramsey Financial Peace University class that begins Jan. 25 from 7 to 9 p.m. Can you image what your life would be like if you had NO payments...If you were completely debt free? This 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 will 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? If so, this class is also for you! Come and learn about investing, wealth building, retirement planning, and more. Please join New World for a free class preview at 7 p.m. on either Tuesday, Jan. 18.

Hurst Organist Featured at Van Cliburn Event — Jan. 23

Dong-ill Shin, world renowned organist at First Hurst UMC and winner of the Grand Prix de Chartres for organists, will be featured at the Van Cliburn Foundation's special concert at 4 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 23, at Broadway Baptist Church. Details of the concert can be found at http://www.cliburn.org/index.php?page=cliburn_concerts. The foundation is offering a special rate

to area churches: Groups of 10 or more can purchase tickets for \$20 each (without add on fees). The normal ticket price is \$25, plus applicable fees. Student tickets are available at the door for \$5 (cash) with a valid student ID.

Taize Evening Prayers — Jan. 16 and Feb. 13

Trinity Arlington UMC invites you to join them for a contemplative worship experience -- "Evening Prayers in the Tradition of Taize." The Taize prayers are scheduled for 7 p.m. Sundays, Jan. 16 and Feb. 13, in the sanctuary (3321 West Park Row Drive, Arlington). This 40-minute worship experience is centered in prayer – spoken, sung, and silent. For more details, contact G.W. "Dub" Shepherd, minister of worship & fine arts, at 817-274-1345.

Look around you. Do you know any family who hasn't been touched by cancer?

Ministry to cancer patients and their families is critical to their health, well being, support and recovery. First UMC Grapevine and the Pastoral Care Dept. of **Cancer Treatment Centers of America® (CTCA)** will host a seminar from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. March 5 training participants to more effectively minister to cancer patients and their families. They will meet at FUMC Grapevine's Family Life Center and teach:

- Why faith is so important to health
- Why it's important to reach out to cancer patients and their families
- What a ministering person is
- What cancer is and what it isn't
- What to say and not say to cancer patients and their families
- How to better pray for them
- What they fight emotionally, mentally and spiritually
- What their bodies need during this fight
- Concrete ways to care for them
- Dos and don'ts of hospital visitation
- Prevention information
- Cancer-fighter recipes and more

The cost is \$20 a person, which includes a continental breakfast, lunch and snacks. Register by Feb. 4 with Katherine Hunter at katherineh@fumcg.org or call 817-481-2559, ext. 130.

First Ennis Celebrates 60th Anniversary — Jan. 30

First UMC of Ennis will celebrate the church's 60th anniversary with a Diamond Jubilee Service at 11 a.m. Jan. 30. Bishop J. Michael Lowry will be speaking and there will be a pot-luck lunch following the service. All former pastors, members and friends are invited to help celebrate this milestone. Questions? Contact Becky Wilbanks at 972-875-7491 or fumcennis@sbcglobal.net. Or visit www.fumcennis.org.

Ed Kilbourne Joins Worship at 2 Hurst Churches — Jan. 30

Ed Kilbourne, well known for having performed at many conference area churches and jurisdictional events, will be at First Hurst and St. Paul UMCs on Sunday, Jan. 30. Kilbourne is a singer, storyteller and folk theologian known for his collections of moving music, quirky humor and insightful monologues, who will be in the area as part of the Clergy Days Apart program. His will be featured in the morning worship services at First Hurst, at St. Paul, his brother Kent's church, at 1 p.m. and then return to First Hurst for a full concert at 7 p.m.

Discover God's Call Retreat — Feb. 11-12

There's still room for clergy and laity at the Feb. 11-12 Discover God's Call retreat at Covenant UMC, Arlington. This is an excellent retreat for Walk to Emmaus pilgrims who would like to go further down the road with the Lord, or for those who want to effectively serve their church by tapping into their God-given gifts. Discover God's Call is primarily a lay-led experience. The "pump is primed" with a personal home Bible study and then the retreat itself begins. We will focus on the story of Nehemiah and the rebuilding of the Jerusalem wall. There will also be small group time with friendly, perceptive leaders; sharing of personal progress; testimonies from previous DGC attendees; fellowship, meals and energizing worship with other committed

Christians. You will be made alive by discovering your spiritual gifts and God's call to use these gifts in your own ministry through the presence of the Holy Spirit. To register, visit the North Texas DGC website at <http://www.facebook.com/l/b8443PPpaECWHLkA-tM-B3paM2Q;www.dgcctx.org/wordpress>.

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.

Let Prayer Change Your Life Workshop — Jan. 29

Becky Tirabassi, a best-selling author and motivational speaker whose call in life is to encourage people of all stages and ages to change their lives for the better, will conduct this prayer workshop from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 29, at Arlington Heights UMC (4200 Camp Bowie Blvd., Fort Worth). The event will be hosted by a team of community volunteers lead by Deborah Jung, a long-time fan of Tirabassi's work and founder and executive Director of Kids Who Care. Through Tirabassi's own challenges, victories and fulfillment of outrageous dreams, she inspires men and women of all ages and backgrounds to believe that they can do the same. She has conquered alcohol, drugs, anger, weight issues and unresolved resentment; and she has experienced success in marriage and parenting. Tirabassi's personal quest for change began at age 21, when she realized she was an alcoholic. Soon after, she made the decision to spend one hour per day for the rest of her life in prayer and Bible study, and she has kept this personal promise to herself for 26 years now. The cost is \$35 (bring a brown bag lunch) or \$45 (boxed lunch provided). A special discount is available for groups of 10 or more at \$30 each (no lunch provided) or \$40 each (boxed lunch provided). For out of town attendees, special hotel rates are available for reservations made by Jan. 8. To register or for more information, call the event hotline hosted by Kids Who Care at 817-737-5437 or go to <http://dayofprayerfw.blogspot.com/>.

Save This Date — March 26, 2011

Keller First UMC (1025 Johnson Road, Keller 76248) will host *Worship Workshop Live! With Marcia McFee* from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, March 26. Early bird special fee until March 21 is \$25 per person, \$20 per person with 3 or more registering together from the same church. After March 21 - \$30 per person. For more information, contact Robin Stevens at robins@kellerumc.org or 817-431-1332.

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=ifITKWNrGaIKL3K&s=chKUK5NBKbLQI5OKKsG&m=edKIWP rHgIWF>)

UMNS on Twitter:

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

United Methodist Reporter Online: www.umportal.org

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)

How to Use UMC's TechShop

You may wonder, "What is TechShop?" Well, my friend, TechShop is a gem for UM organizations and their budgets. TechShop will quickly become your finance committee's best friend as it keeps your church outfitted with the latest technology available with deeply discounted software from major suppliers like Microsoft and Adobe. Settle in with a cup of Joe and take a tour of TechShop!

<http://www.umcom.org/site/apps/nlnet/content3.aspx?c=mrLZJ9PFKMG&b=6084837&ct=8860103¬oc=1&tr=y&auid=7367185>

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.

Depression Seminar in Your Church — FREE

Mental Health Facts from the Depression Connection Team: The World Health Organization has reported that four of the 10 leading causes of disability in the U.S. and other developed countries are mental disorders. By 2020, major depressive illness will be the leading cause of disability in the world for women and children. 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.

36 Parables: Lime. DVD. The parables of: The Mustard Sees; The Wise and Foolish Builders; The Wheat and the Weeds. Part of the *36 Parables* series, this DVD offers three compelling short videos that put Jesus' parables into modern-day scenarios, giving you something to think about and opening up opportunities for dialogue. Includes downloadable PDF study guide, scripture for the videos, and behind-the-scenes documentaries.

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.

Bibles to a Good Home

Dean Posey (817-444-0428) has 85 Bibles to give to a good home. if you or someone you know has need please contact him. They are boxed up ready to go!

Youth Ministry Intern

First UMC of Fort Worth seeks to hire a part time intern to join their Youth Ministry Team. Responsibilities for this position are to join the rest of the staff in looking after the spiritual needs of the youth, planning and leading Bible studies, working with small groups, planning and attending events and trips, and simply meeting youth where they are. If you are interested, please send your resume to bfrenzel@myfumc.org or to Brandon Frenzel, First UMC Fort Worth, 800 W. 5th St. Fort Worth, TX 76102.

Youth Ministry Worship Leader

First UMC of Fort Worth seeks to hire a part time worship leader for its Youth Ministry. Responsibilities include leading youth worship on Sunday mornings with our youth band, holding weekly practices, and managing the stage and equipment. Additional responsibilities may include special events, going on trips, etc. If you are interested, please send your resume to bfrenzel@myfumc.org or to Brandon Frenzel, First UMC Fort Worth, 800 W. 5th St. Fort Worth, TX 76102.

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. Salary \$1250 per month. Send resume to: FUMC, PO Box 1466, Mineral Wells, TX 76068 or contact church office at 940-325-4707 for more details.

Musician

Experienced Methodist Musician looking for a musician position at a church in the greater DFW area. Accomplished choral conductor and worship leader in Praise Band. Member of Community of Hope UMC, Mansfield, Joe Carmichael - reference. Bachelor/Master of Music in choral conducting, voice and Jazz piano from University of North Texas. Janice Kilgore, 972-291-9130 JKKmusik@aol.com.

Church Coordinator/Secretary

Experienced church worker recently moved to the Fort Worth area and is looking for a church coordinator/secretary position. Contact: Katherine Ferdinandsen at katterdinandsen@yahoo.com.

25-Passenger Van for Sale

Early FUMC has a 25-passenger bus for sale — '95 Ford 350 power stroke diesel with 102,000 miles on it. Contact the church office at earlyfumc@gmail.com for more details. Asking \$6000.

2 P-T Positions at St. Luke, Killeen

St. Luke UMC in Killeen (400 members/50 children and youth and growing) has 2 part-time positions available beginning in January, both requiring someone who is faithful and dedicated to Christian education. Bi-lingual in Korean preferred.

- As the part-time **Sunday School Leader** you will be responsible for leading and ministering to multi-ethnic children; lead and preach weekly at the children's Sunday worship service; lead the program for children on Fridays; attend the staff meetings on Saturday; plan and lead annual summer VBS program and any special church-wide Sunday school worship services.

- As a part-time **Youth Leader** you will be responsible for leading and ministering to multi-ethnic junior and senior high school students; lead and preach weekly at Sunday youth worship service; teach Bible study class on Friday; plan and lead two youth retreats each year and lead any special church-wide Youth Ministry Worship Services.

For more details and to apply, contact St. Luke UMC at 254-526-3993 or 102 E. Church Ave., Killeen 76541. Website: www.umcstluke.org.

Administrative Assistant to Facilities Director

First UMC of Arlington has a part-time position (20 hrs/wk) available for an experienced administrative assistant to work directly with the facilities director. Duties include assigning room set-ups, assisting in staff scheduling, office paperwork, working with vendors, scheduling weddings, and other office duties. Please send resume to byoung@arlingtonmethodist.org.

Director of Youth Ministries

St. Luke UMC (3200 Denton Hwy. Haltom City 76117) seeks applicants for part-time director of youth ministries to coordinate and lead the youth ministry program. Responsibilities include building strong relationships with youth in the church community, shared planning, coordination and leading for weekly fellowship and discipleship, retreat and trips, mission trips and outreach, co-teaching Sunday school, and fundraisers. Requirements include an authentic faith in Jesus Christ, passion for working with youth and UM background considered a plus. Salary: \$12,000/yr. Send resume to address above.

Director of Youth Ministries □

First UMC of Keller seeks a dynamic person to lead and grow a spiritually enriched youth ministry. Bachelor's degree and experience in youth ministry are required. Willingness to support and teach UM beliefs is necessary. Position involves 40+hours a week. Salary is competitive. Send resume to Robin Stevens, pastor of Discipleship Ministries, at robins@kellerumc.org. FUMC, 1025 Johnson Rd., Keller 76248.

Director of Family Ministries

Christ UMC of Fort Worth has an opening for the position of director of family ministries to coordinate ministries with children, youth, and young adults of the church and its surrounding community, utilizing church volunteers as teachers and leaders. This is a part-time position (15 hours per week). For more information and a job description, contact Lou Hulcy, SPR chair, or Chauncey Nealy, pastor, by emailing the CUMC church office at office.christumc@sbcglobal.net.

Assistant Minister/Focus on Youth Ministry

Breckenridge First UMC 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 and Compensation:* Full-time or part-time. *Compensation includes:* Salary commensurate with education and experience, contribution to UM Pension program, reimbursement for reasonable expenses and cell phone to an amount certain and moving allowance. Sick leave, holidays and vacation according to office staff policy. (Willing to accept inquires for this position as a part-time position). For more information including full job description and/or to express interest contact Jeff Miller, FUMC, 419 West Walker, Breckenridge 76424 or pastor@firstumcbreckenridge.org.

ESL Teacher

University UMC in Fort Worth seeks individuals interested in teaching English as a Second Language as the church takes steps to build intentional relationships with the community it serves. All interested parties should contact Jason Hamilton at jhamilton@uumcfw.com.

Director of Children's Ministry

Seeking a full-time children's ministry director for 2000+ member church. Great place, great opportunity and future, great staff. Contact Eric Smith at Acton UMC at 817-326-4242 or eric@actonumc.org.

P-T Choir Director

First UMC of Hico seeks applicants for part-time choir director. The person will have a love of Christ and a heart for music ministry for "Passionate Worship" in the local church. The person will conduct choir practice Wednesdays at 7 p.m. and direct the choir and the congregation on Sundays at the 10:50 a.m. worship service. The position also includes times of extra rehearsals during the Advent/Christmas season and Lent/Holy Week/Easter. FUMC seeks a person who has a music degree and experience as a choir director and is willing to work with choir members who are untrained but who love to sing for the glory of God. Contact Buddy Teague, SPR chair, at fumchico@embarqmail.com.

Nursery Worker

First UMC of Grandview seeks applicants for a part-time nursery worker position during worship, which requires a love of children and residence in the Grandview area. Please send resume to office@gvmethodist.org.

Part-time Choir Director

Cisco First UMC seeks a choir director for Sunday 10:50 a.m. worship. Requirements: experience and confidence in directing a choir; ability to choose weekly anthems and special music at Christmas and Easter; availability for Wednesday evening rehearsals and Sunday morning worship. If interested, e-mail resume to revlsm@aol.com or mail to FUMC – Cisco, 405 W. 8th Street, Cisco 76437.

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.