



Central E-Link

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

July 21, 2010

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

Editor: Carolyn Stephens Carolyn@ctcumc.org

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

News Briefs — The Conference

Live Streaming of Convocation

Want to follow our four CTC young people at the Global Young People Convocation in Berlin? Here is a link to the live streaming on the general website for the Convocation worship services. Catch them in sessions at <http://www.globalyoungpeople.org/index.php>. Prayers for delegates Amy Miller, Stefanie Schutz, David McMinn and Matt Polk are welcomed!

Congratulations to Brownwood First, Martin and Davis Memorial!

Brownwood First UMC and Wm. C. Martin UMC in Bedford are the latest churches in the CTC to be certified as official **Welcoming Congregations in 2010** and Davis Memorial UMC in North Richland Hills (Mid-Cities District) is the latest Central Texas church to renew its certification as an official **Welcoming Congregation for 2010**. The UMC places a high value on radical hospitality as a vital ministry so we all celebrate this important achievement and support Brownwood First, Martin, Davis Memorial and the other Certified Welcoming Congregations in our conference as they embrace newcomers and provides opportunities for discipleship through their welcoming lifestyle. They, along with any other interested congregation, have access to resources at www.RethinkChurch.org to strengthen and maintain a dynamic welcoming ministry in their congregations and to help them extend their welcome into the community and the world.

Kenneth Shamblin Notice

Kenneth Shamblin, a retired elder in the CTC (Mid-Cities District), died July 15. A memorial service will be held at 2 p.m. July 31 at First UMC in Richardson where Ken had been working. Sympathy cards can be sent to Mrs. Kenneth Shamblin, 4028 Courtshire Drive, Dallas 75229-2839.

Reminder to Clergy Needing CEUs

Participants in the CTC Cooperative Schools of Christian Mission sessions (weekday, weekend, evenings) Aug. 2-8 can earn .7 CEU for each study (7 hours/10 hours). There are 3 studies available: For the Love of God-The Epistles of John; The Beauty and Courage of Sudan; and Joy to the World-Mission in the Age of Global Christianity. There is also an evening study of For the Love of God-The Epistles of John, if you cannot attend the full school. For more information go to the CTC website and look for CSCM under UMW or contact CSCM Dean Troy Chapman (817-569-1454, 682-472-0706 cell, metroboard-umc-tc@sbcglobal.net) or UMW Conference President Cynthia Rives (254-592-1510, cynrives@yahoo.com).

Cooperative School of Christian Mission — Aug. 2-4, 3-5, 6-8

Registration is extended for the Cooperative School of Christian Mission, which this year offers three opportunities to participate and learn and grow in your knowledge of mission and faith in God. Plan now to attend:

- Evening School, Monday-Wednesday, Aug. 2-4, at First UMC Hurst
- Weekday School, Tuesday-Thursday, Aug. 3-5, at First UMC Hurst
- Weekend School, Friday evening-Sunday afternoon, Aug. 6-8, at Glen Lake Camp

A registration form with school information is attached to this *E-Link*. During the weekday and weekend schools there are classes for youth and children. There are scholarships available through the conference and district UMW units. Make this the year you make time for this important opportunity sponsored by the United Methodist Woman and Global Ministries — open to all men, women, youth and children.

John Beckling, III Shares New Vision for Chrysalis Journey #16

The CTC Chrysalis Journey #16 will be Aug. 19-21 at First UMC in Early (Brownwood District). This is a Emmaus program for young adults ages 18-28. John Beckling, III, the lay coordinator for Chrysalis Journey #16 is asked for prayers for the resumption of this program and “for our caterpillars.” If you have any questions, please contact Beckling at utachristianguy@yahoo.com.

From Norman Suggs, Campus Minister/Director, TSU Wesley Foundation

You might think that with the summer, we are not busy at our campus ministry settings. That is far from the truth! As the fall term nears, I would like to offer a few suggestions:

- If you know of a student who will be attending a school with a campus ministry, please send their names to the campus minister (see list for those in the CTC at <http://www.ctcumc.org/pages/detail/931> or Joy Roberson (joy@ctcumc.org) in the conference office so that we can connect them to one of the campus ministries. We have access to the names and addresses of campus ministers all around the nation and will be happy to assist you in relating them at their campuses.
- If your church is on Facebook, friend your student members before they leave for the term. It will be a very effective way to keep in touch with them and continue a local church connection while they may be away from home.

Online Safe Sanctuary Training Available in Mid-August

The CTC now has an online Safe Sanctuaries Training for local church leaders and volunteers who will be working with children, youth and vulnerable adults. This course is not meant to replace the local church's face-to-face training. Rather, it is hoped that this will be an option for those who, for any reason, are unable to attend the regularly scheduled training a local church provides. The conference estimates that it will require about four to six hours to complete the online training, but those who wish to complete their training online will have up to one month to complete it at their own pace and on their preferred schedule. Upon completion, the participant will be able to print a certificate to present to their Safe Sanctuaries coordinator or the equivalent in their local church. The person who chooses this training will need the book *Safe Sanctuaries* by Joy Melton to be able to successfully complete it. Most local churches have this book, but it can be purchased through the Cokesbury store or at www.cokesbury.com. The first scheduled opportunity to take the online course will begin on Aug. 15, and it should be completed by Sept. 15. For more information, contact Karen Granderson at 817-877-5222, 800-460-8622 or Karen@ctcumc.org.

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.

Church/Ministry Display Tables

A number of churches and ministries have signed up for display tables at the CTC Centennial Celebration Oct. 23 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. Display table already reserved are for:

Alliance First	Alvarado	Arlington First	Asbury, Ft Worth
Bracks/Springhill	Breckenridge First	Christ, Ft Worth	Cogdell Memorial
Corsicana First	Davis Memorial	Dido	Edge Park, Ft Worth
El Buen Samaritano	Epworth, Arlington	Fort Worth First	Frost
Genesis	Glen Rose First	Graham First	Hamilton First
Hico First	Jean	Keller First	Kennedale First
King Memorial	Meadowbrook	Newcastle First	Perry
Pleasant Grove	Polytechnic, Ft Worth	Ridglea, Ft Worth	St. Andrews, Ft Worth
St. James, Waco	St. John the Apostle	Salado	Temple First
Smithfield	Wellspring	Wesley, Waco	
United Community Centers			

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.

Central Texas Methodist Foundation Workshop — 9 a.m.-noon Aug. 28

The Central Texas Methodist Foundation workshop on “Engaging, Equipping and Growing Disciples” for church leaders, scheduled for 9 a.m. to noon Aug. 28 at Arlington Heights UMC in Fort Worth, will include three discipleship segments:

- New Consecration Sunday program for stewardship development,
- EQUIP – the Methodist version of the Financial Peace University program, and
- Alpha USA – the evangelism program that engages people to explore faith in Christ.

Presentations will be followed by round table discussions. No charge, but reservations are required to assure adequate materials. Call 817-332-1394, 800-333-4096 or e-mail pat@ctmf.org.

Best Practices/Cutting Edge Strategies for Adult Ministries/Discipleship — Aug. 9

If you have responsibilities for **adult ministries/adult discipleship** in your local church, you are welcome to be a part of a group that is forming to share best practices and cutting edge strategies for planning and growing your ministries. The group will meet from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Monday, August 9, at the Conference Office (464 Bailey Ave., Fort Worth 76107). Boxed lunches will be ordered, Dutch treat, and will be available for ONLY those who RSVP (communicate any special dietary needs). Please indicate whether you will be attending by contacting Karen Granderson at karen@ctcumc.org or 817-877-5222 **before Aug. 4**. Amy Vanpool of FUMC Mansfield and Ramon Smith of Lighthouse Fellowship will lead the discussion. They will share work on their respective discipleship systems for their churches. If you have been working on a system for inviting persons deeper into discipleship, please bring your ideas to share as well as handouts or other information.

Created by God: Train the Trainer — Sept. 10-11

Andy Stoker from the North Texas Conference and Kay Lancaster from the Central Texas Conference are amassing a group of persons within our conferences (and beyond) to attend a regional *Created By God: Train the Trainer* event for the human sexuality course for tweens. If you would like more information about the process of being trained to lead this course in local churches, please contact Karen Granderson at karen@ctcumc.org, 817-877-5222 or 800-460-8622. If you have been previously trained, it may be time for a refresher course on the revised materials. The event will be held Sept. 10-11 at FUMC-Arlington. If you feel called to be a trainer, please let us know as soon as possible. All are welcome! For a poster about the event, click on http://ct.brickriver.com/files/oFiles_Library_XZXLCZ/CBG_Trainer_Poster_RDGF4U7Y.pdf.

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!

Follow the Conference Centennial Celebration on Facebook — Oct. 23

Mark Winter has set up a Facebook page to follow the growing features for the 100th anniversary Centennial Celebration Saturday, Oct. 23, in Fort Worth. To see more details and confirm this invitation, follow the link at http://www.facebook.com/n/?pages%2FCTC-Centennial-Celebration%2F128618053831428&mid=27b080fG602f37e2G1646330G4c&n_m=carolyn%40ctcumc.org. And look for details and tickets and memorabilia forms on the website at www.ctcumc.org.

News Briefs — The Denomination

Texas Missionaries in Ukraine Invite Young People to “Cooking with Jesus ...”

Check out this video clip: It seems there is a universal truth concerning college students...they love to eat. So, when an American missionary couple from Texas inherited an established student ministry in western Ukraine, they not only turned to the “Good Book” but also an American cookbook for inspiration. Their breaking of bread is sustenance with substance. See how it’s working at

<http://www.umc.org/site/apps/nlnet/content3.aspx?c=IwL4KnN1Lth&b=2022489&ct=8531025&tr=y&auid=6653633>.

Welcome to *CORR{ageous}! Times*

The inaugural issue of *CORR{ageous}! Times*, a quarterly newsletter for friends of the General Commission on Religion and Race is available at www.gcorr.org. The new masthead conveys the belief that the task of dismantling racism means learning, sharing and taking action to move the UMC from racism to relationships, a task that requires courage to talk in new ways about the sin of racism that separates us from each other and from God; courage to invite new people into the conversations about race; and courage to take action that transforms our lives and the church.

Gathering Promotes Disciple-Making Churches — July 29-Aug. 2

The School of Congregational Development will bring together speakers and workshop leaders to help UM leaders develop disciple-making churches. The 2010 gathering, sponsored by the General Board of Discipleship, Path 1 and the General Board of Global Ministries, will be held July 29 to Aug. 2 at the Renaissance Hotel, Nashville Convention Center and area churches.

Register for September Ministry Retreat by Aug. 5

The 48-hour Discernment & Formation Retreat, sponsored jointly by the General Boards of Higher Education & Ministry and Global Ministries, is for anyone who is seriously discerning a call to UM set-apart ministry, those in candidacy prior to commissioning for ordained ministry (deacon, elder, chaplain or pastoral counselor) or the lay office of deaconess or home missioner. The event begins at 5 p.m. Sept. 9, ending at 4 p.m. Sept. 11. To register or invite someone else to register, click on

<https://guest.cvent.com/EVENTS/Register/IdentityConfirmation.aspx?e=af1bcd71-d18a-4a1c-8247-53f38c622e60>. The site includes the schedule, housing and travel information, workshop descriptions, sign-up and plenary speakers. It also contains directions to send the invitation to others whom you think might be interested.

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.

2010 Events at Mount Sequoyah Retreat & Conference Center

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

Oct. 18-22: *Leaves of Gold*

This retreat features worship, fellowship, workshops, tours, laughter, learning and fun during the turning of the leaves to gold at Mount Sequoyah! Bishop Richard Wilke will be the featured worship leader. Register online by Oct. 10 at www.mountsequoyah.org.

Oct. 25-28: *Autumn Time*

Autumn Time is a wonderful experience featuring worship, praise, fellowship, laughter and fun! Workshops include centering prayer, spiritual journaling, exercise, nutrition workshop, military workshop, tour of the AR Air Museum. Register online by Oct. 15 at www.mountsequoyah.org.

CEF Conference — Oct. 22-25

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

Local Congregations & Ministry Groups

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.*

Grief Recovery Workshop — July 24

"Life After Loss Grief Recovery Workshop" is scheduled for 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, July 24, at 108 W. Pearl St., Granbury. A grief recovery workshop is a safe place where those who have experienced the loss of a loved one through death can learn about the process of grieving, what most people experience during that process and support skills to aid the bereaved along the path

of rebuilding their lives. A \$25 fee covers the cost of lunch and materials. Registration deadline is Thursday, July 22. Space is limited so early registration is recommended. Drop-ins are welcome and seated "space available," however lunch cannot be guaranteed for drop-in arrivals. For more information contact Lana Bradley at LANA@spectrumministries.info or 817-228-6318.

Faith & Film at First Waxahachie — July 24 & 25

Waxahachie First UMC is hosting Saturday night movies and Sunday morning messages, which they're calling "Faith & Film." All are welcome for show times each Saturday at 6:30 p.m. with the message given during Awakening Service each Sunday at 11 a.m. The last show in the series and corresponding message is July 24 & 25 — *Avatar*.

Smiles & Styles Fashion Show — July 27

Join members at Arborlawn UMC Tuesday, July 27, for the annual "Smiles & Styles Fashion Show" benefiting the Bethlehem Center, a part of United Community Centers. The fashion show starts at 2 p.m. and stars the children and youth of the Bethlehem Center. Following Smiles and Styles will be a cookie and punch reception in the church's foyer. For more details, contact Susie Reyes, UCC director of development, at 918-927-5556, or email at sreyes@unitedcommunitycenters.org.

AUM's "Christmas in July"

Arlington Urban Ministries is planning ahead and checking their list twice for the AUM Children's Christmas Party! During July, look for the decorated AUM collection box at our churches. Please bring new, unwrapped toys or games for children ages 12 and under. Wal-Mart and Target gift cards are also appreciated. Your contributions will help provide a special Christmas for some deserving kids.

Suicide Survivors Groups Forming

Suicide Survivors is a grief recovery program for family members and friends who have lost loved ones to suicide. New groups are forming this summer. Groups of 8 to 10 meet for two hours weekly for 8 weeks. A mental health professional and a trained survivor facilitate group meetings. There is no charge for this service. For more information call 817-698-9955 or e-mail suicidesurvivors@myfumc.org.

Christmas in July at Tarrant County Union Gospel Mission

Because of the tremendous need of residents and guests from the streets at Christmas, this project seeks the participation of children (and parents) to help get started on Christmas — in July. Cash donations can be received and earmarked "Christmas in July," or donations in kind. The items donated must be new and unwrapped. This could be a creative, fun project for local churches, Sunday school classes, youth, etc. Needs are: Men and women's underwear, twin sheets/pillow cases, men and women's socks, women's bath robes, men's long underwear, baby and toddler items like crib sheets/pads/toys/clothes/baby bottles. For further information, contact Chaplain Stanley Maneikis at 817-334-0894 or Lanni Boyd at 817-338-8402.

Basic Lay Speaking Course at River Oaks — Aug. 14 & 21

A basic lay speaking course is being offered at River Oaks UMC on Saturdays, Aug. 14 and 21 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Lunch will be provided by the church. Cost is \$ 25, paid at the first class. Contact Judy Clarke at 817-292-9555 (home), 817-922-9950 (office) or judyclarke@sbcglobal.net.

Financial Peace Workshop — Aug. 4 Preview / Aug. 24 Start Up

Sparks Memorial UMC (900 Maxfield, Waco 76705) will be leading a 13-week session on Dave Ramsey's *Financial Peace University*. A preview session will be held at 7 p.m. Aug. 2 with classes beginning on Aug. 24. 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).

Advanced Lay Speakers — Aug. 7

The Advanced Lay Speaker Course "Lay Speakers Interpret to Others Our United Methodist Heritage" will be presented by Certified Lay Speaker William (Bill) Jones on Aug. 7 at St. Andrew's UMC (1000 Florence Rd., Killeen 76540). The course will begin at 8:30 a.m. and end at 6 p.m.. There is no charge for the course and lunch will be provided. Please notify Bill Jones at 254-698-3133 or wjones8152@aol.com.

Waco Prayer Conference 2010 — Aug. 7

"I don't want to talk about prayer; I want to ACTually PRAY"

First UMC, Waco will host this event from 8:30 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 7. Jim Leggett, senior pastor at Grace Fellowship UMC in Katy, TX, will lead the conference. Registration - **\$20** before July 31; \$25 after July 31. Information available at fumcwaco.org or contact Linda Hammond at 254-772-5630.

Cowboy Church at Christ UMC — Aug. 14-15

Christ UMC, Fort Worth, will be holding its annual Cowboy Church event Aug. 14-15. At 7 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 14, there will be a free concert by Christian country music artist and evangelist Jay Johnson and his band. There is no charge for the concert; however, the church will be accepting school supplies or cash donations to be given to those in need in the local school district. At 10:30 a.m. Sunday morning, Aug. 15, Johnson will lead this country-inspired Country Church worship service with special music by the Emmy nominated gospel quartet Praise, Inc. This will be followed by a BBQ lunch in the Fellowship Hall. For more information, please visit www.cumcfw.org or call the church office at 817-346-2400, or email Allen Heinecke at aheinecke@sbcglobal.net.

Robbie Seay Band in Concert — Aug. 29

First UMC, Cleburne presents "**The Robbie Seay Band**" in concert 6 p.m. Sunday, Aug 29, at the Cleburne Conference Center. For ticket info contact FUMC, Cleburne at 817-645-6392 or clint@fumccleburne.com.

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)

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 can affect persons of any age, race, religion or income. Mental illnesses are not the result of personal weakness, lack of character or poor upbringing. Mental illnesses are treatable. 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.

Chasing Cool: Examining the Pursuits of Your Heart. Brett Rickey. Six session DVD, copy of the book and printable leader's guide. We spend our time, money, and energy on getting or achieving things to impress others, and as a result our lives are overscheduled, overworked, and filled with debt. This study explores the misleading and damaging web of self-centeredness and image control. Using timeless Bible lessons to help expose the attitudes and misconceptions that often cause us to get caught up in cool, clever wit and challenging insight, this will help you align the pursuits of your heart with God's pursuits so you can start chasing what really matters.

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.

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.

P-T Director of Music/Fine Arts

Opening for a part-time director of music and fine arts at Aledo UMC, a 1700-member church in East Parker County with an average worship attendance of 450. Responsibilities include oversight of the music and fine arts department, development of creative worship ideas, leading the chancel choir, bell choir, etc., overseeing the contemporary praise and worship leader, overseeing all audio/visual equipment and drama ministries. Requirements: minimum two years of similar experience and an undergraduate degree. Submit resume to Jason Jones at JasonJones@aledoumc.org

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.

Director of ABC Wee School

"Christ UMC of Fort Worth is looking for a director of its ABC Wee School. This is a two-day per week mother's day out program, with the position to begin in September. Inquiries should be directed to Lou Hulcy, SPRC chair, at louhulcy@sbcglobal.net or 817-293-7853.

Display Unit

Custom built tall wooden Stephen Ministry display unit available. Display may be used for stocking Stephen Ministry applications and related literature, as well as having a Stephen Minister stationed beside it to answer questions. Free to a good church home (will require a pickup truck to transport). If interested, contact debbieb@firstmethodistmansfield.org.

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:samnrody@sbcglobal.net).) This is a church that celebrated Easter Sunday with 14 Baptisms and 14 confirmations — 1 baptism and 2 confirmations of older adults.

Music Director

(20 hours) – If you like the sound of “that’s the way we’ve always done it,” this position isn’t for you. Brock UMC (<http://www.brockumc.com/>), a growing church 30 minutes west of Fort Worth, seeks to hire their first music director; position can include leading music for both contemporary and traditional services, launching an adult choir, overseeing two new kid choirs and even using our two octaves of handbells that are ready to ring once again. Resumes or questions may be sent to Alan@brockumc.com.

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.

Director of Youth Ministries

First UMC, Red Oak seeks an enthusiastic youth director. The position is half time and will require working with jr. and sr. high youth. Requirements: experience in youth ministry preferred, excellent communication and relationship building skills and excellent references. Needs to have a good understanding of Methodist doctrine and be a mature spiritual leader with a heart for youth and their families. Be able to plan/coordinate activities for 7 – 12 graders, including weekly Bible study, Sunday school, youth meetings, fundraisers, and annual mission trip. Additional ministry opportunities available depending on gifts and graces. Contact church office at 972-617-9100 for an application.

Office Equipment

A member of Cogdell UMC in Waco offers two items:
For sale — RICOH-2051 copier, w/finisher, internet capabilities and maintenance available till 2014. \$1,500 or best offer.
Contact Pat at 254-855-0796 for more info.

Church Pianist

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

General Development Officer

The Methodist Children's Home in Waco seeks a full time general development officer. Responsibilities: initiate, build and maintain relationships with benefactors, foundations and churches in the Central Texas area in an effort to secure charitable donations. Bachelor's degree and experience in fundraising or other related field required. A general understanding of the field of development, charitable giving, the UMC and childcare agencies is preferred. Must be willing to travel an average of three days a week, including some weekends. Apply at: www.methodistchildrenshome.org; recruiter@mchwaco.org; or MCH, 1111 Herring Ave. Waco, TX 76708.

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.