



# Central E-Link

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

**March 24, 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).

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

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## News Briefs — The Conference

### Health Care Reform

Reactions to the health care reform legislative continue to circulate around the nation and our Central Texas Conference. It is important to recognize that The United Methodist Church has been fully involved in this conversation since John Wesley's time and certainly over the past 8 General Conferences, always affirming the need for comprehensive health care that extends to all. We are a diverse people with many perspectives on most every issue — including health care. The UMC's position is not for or against any political party or the specific bill passed late Sunday by the U.S. House of Representatives. It is simply in support of health care for all.

From a UMNS story released Tuesday: An attack on U.S. Rep. Emanuel Cleaver (a UM clergy elder in the Missouri Conference) — who was spat upon and called a racial slur by protesters outside the Capitol—offers an opportunity to model civil discourse and point to a different path. “It saddens me, the acrimonious debate both in Congress and in the public at large. We have failed to carry on serious debate without personal attacks and name-calling,” said Bishop Gregory V. Palmer, president of the UM Council of Bishops and leader of the denomination's Illinois Great Rivers Annual (regional) Conference. “My hope is that the church would do such an effective job at managing its own difficult conversations that we might be a model for how the world can manage difficult disagreements,” he said. Read the full story at <http://www.umc.org/site/apps/nlnet/content3.aspx?c=IwL4KnN1Lth&b=5259669&ct=8114773&tr=y&auid=6110074>.

For those who wish to deepen their understanding of the UMC's views on health care, read on the conference website under “Church and Society” the *2008 Book of Discipline* paragraph 162.V ([http://ct.brickriver.com/files/oFiles\\_Library\\_XZXLCZ/2008\\_Book\\_of\\_Discipline\\_Right\\_to\\_Health\\_Care\\_XYHJAQCL.pdf](http://ct.brickriver.com/files/oFiles_Library_XZXLCZ/2008_Book_of_Discipline_Right_to_Health_Care_XYHJAQCL.pdf)) and Resolution 3201 (entitled Health Care for All in the United States) from the *United Methodist Book of Resolutions* ([http://ct.brickriver.com/files/oFiles\\_Library\\_XZXLCZ/2008\\_Book\\_of\\_Resolutions\\_HEALTH\\_CARE\\_FZ5YQBYY.pdf](http://ct.brickriver.com/files/oFiles_Library_XZXLCZ/2008_Book_of_Resolutions_HEALTH_CARE_FZ5YQBYY.pdf)). Other helpful resources:

GBCS's The Bible and Health Advocacy: Ancient Vision, Modern Imperative  
<http://www.umc-gbcs.org/atf/cf/%7B689fea4c-8849-4c05-a89e-c9bc7fff64c%7D/GBCSHEALTHCAREGRID2009.PDF>

John 10:10 -- A Justice-Filled Prescription for Health Care

<http://www.1010challenge.org/site/c.oIzIfNYJwE/b.5337789/k.C006/Home.htm>

Also, view the following video clips to see the UMC's responses to the need for compassionate health care in local settings:

First UMC, Los Angeles:

<http://www.umc.org/site/apps/nlnet/content3.aspx?c=IwL4KnN1LtH&b=2022489&ct=7130479>

Pathways in Petersburg, Va:

<http://www.umc.org/site/apps/nlnet/content3.aspx?c=IwL4KnN1LtH&b=2022489&ct=6759761>

La Clinica in St. Louis, Mo: [http://umtv.org/video/\[20031001\]/la\\_clinica.mov](http://umtv.org/video/[20031001]/la_clinica.mov)

### **The Upper Room — 75 Years in Ministry**

The April 2 issue of the conference's *Central Link* newspaper will have a special 8-page treat for longtime users of *The Upper Room* devotional booklet. The supplement will highlight the 75 years of ministry provided by *The Upper Room*, a small devotional booklet that has served so many for so long, and the unfolding vision for its future. *The Upper Room* continues to answer the call to help many around the globe begin their daily walk with God.

### **Native American Ministries Sunday — April 18**

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

### **Black College Fund DVDs**

The conference has about two dozen DVDs about The Black College Fund that can be claimed by anyone who might put one to good use with their congregation or ministry group. If interested, please contact Susan Briles at [Susan@ctcumc.org](mailto:Susan@ctcumc.org) or 871-877-5222. The student who walk the grounds of United Methodism's 11 historically Black colleges and universities are the result of answered prayers, some more than a century old. This engaging documentary tells how these students are change the world today.

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

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

### **CTC Update on Haiti Relief**

From Disaster Response Task Force Chair Laraine Waughtal: The situation in Haiti continues to be a difficult struggle. And the people of the UMC continue to respond to the need in Haiti. Because so much of the population is living outdoors due to the loss of homes and the continued fear of aftershocks, new problems are developing in the country. Many babies are now being born out on the streets at a great risk for the loss of life due to the unsanitary conditions. Birthing Kits, which cost about \$8 each to assemble, and Layette Kits, which cost about \$35 each, are desperately needed. The Birthing Kits provide safe and sanitary ways for women to delivery babies who do not immediate have access to medical care. The Layette Kits contain those items first needed for the newborn, such as receiving blanket, cloth diapers, newborn outfits and more. For church groups assembling these kits, please do not forget to include your \$1 for

the shipping of each kit. Where possible, please have your church gather the individual dollars and write one check made out to the CTC and "Relief Supplies" on the memo line to be turned in at the collection site. The Conference Disaster Response Task force is asking for churches to collect Layette Kits and Birthing Kits (the content list is online at <http://sagerbrown.org/>. Austin Avenue UMC in Waco has agreed to be our collection point to the south and all kits should be taken there by April 29. Bethel UMC in Weatherford will be the northern collection point. They request that you bring your kits to them Saturday, May 1, between 9 a.m. and noon. The conference has a team going to Sager Brown and will be taking these kits directly to the depot. Let's have another great response from the CTC like we did with our Health Kits and let the people of Haiti know how much we care. If you have questions, contact Jennifer Bellamy at 817-877-5222 or Laraine Waughtal at 940-564-6494. Please pack your kits in boxes and mark on the outside of the box the count for each type of kit.

### **Imagine No Malaria Selected for 2010 Annual Conference Offering**

For Imagine No Malaria information and downloadable resources, please visit [http://www.umc.org/site/c.lwL4KnN1Lth/b.5554239/k.31EB/Imagine\\_No\\_Malaria\\_a\\_ministry\\_to\\_eliminate\\_malaria\\_in\\_Africa\\_by\\_2015.htm](http://www.umc.org/site/c.lwL4KnN1Lth/b.5554239/k.31EB/Imagine_No_Malaria_a_ministry_to_eliminate_malaria_in_Africa_by_2015.htm). Check out what others are doing on INM's Facebook page at <http://www.facebook.com/umcImagineNoMalaria>.

### **Centennial Celebration Needs Your Logo Ideas**

A special CTC centennial celebration is planned for Oct. 23 in Fort Worth and you can participate by designing a logo for the Centennial. The 100th Anniversary Committee will judge entries. For more details, contact Carolyn Stephens at [Carolyn@ctcumc.org](mailto:Carolyn@ctcumc.org). To date, the conference has received four logo designs and has had inquiries from several others interested in the project. Your designs would be welcomed!

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

Each year Mount Sequoyah hosts a volunteer workweek for volunteers from all of the 15 conferences that make up the South Central Jurisdiction. The retreat center, located at the top of a large overlooking Fayetteville, Ark., serves as host to a number of workshops, meetings, retreats, and training opportunities for our jurisdiction. Details at [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).

### **In The Large Church — April 12-15**

Making disciples and decision-making are at the heart of an educational opportunity April 12-15 at University UMC in San Antonio for the "Large Church Initiative 2010." The goal for this national training event is to introduce you to leading thinkers, major speakers, cutting-edge systems for making disciples and making decisions that make disciples. Details: <http://www.lci2010.com>.

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

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

### **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).

#### **Faithfully Fit Forever Leader Training — April 24**

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

#### **Black Church Convocation — April 30-May 1**

Connecting People in the Body of Christ will be the focus of the Black Church Convocation April 30-May 1 at Glen Lake Camp & Retreat Center in Glen Rose. A project of the CTC Outreach Mission Council Urban Ministries Committee, will feature Jack C. Gause (St. Peter's UMC, Austin) in a worship lab on using technology in worship and four workshops on finding connection: Through a Clear Sense of Mission, Through Technology, Through Small Groups, Through Ministry with Children & Youth. For more details, visit the conference website at [http://ct.brickriver.com/files/oFiles\\_Library\\_XZXLCZ/Black\\_Church\\_Convocation\\_R4X3JD5P.PDF](http://ct.brickriver.com/files/oFiles_Library_XZXLCZ/Black_Church_Convocation_R4X3JD5P.PDF) or contact Carol Gibson at 817-336-2117.

#### **United Methodist Night at the Ballpark! — May 8**

Get discount tickets for UMC churches for the Saturday, May 8, Ranger game against the Royals. Game time is 7:05 p.m. and tickets start at \$7.50 for upper reserved and \$8 for bleachers. Get order information at <http://www.ctcumc.org/pages/detail/1391>.

#### **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.

## **News Briefs — The Denomination**

#### **Change the World Discount at Cokesbury**

The Fort Worth Cokesbury store (6333 Camp Bowie Blvd., Fort Worth 76116) is offering a 5% discount on all product sales in support of the denomination's Change the World vital mission. The sale is April 7-10 with up to \$50,000 to be donated to the Imagine No Malaria program. For details, visit [www.RethinkChurch.org](http://www.RethinkChurch.org).

#### **Soul searching: Students can make college search a spiritual journey**

Check the UMPortal (<http://www.umportal.org/article.asp?id=6523>) for an interesting story for students selecting a college/university.

#### **Sisterhood of the Travelin' Shoes — April 12-13**

This is a South Central Jurisdiction event for women in ministry April 12-13 at St. Luke UMC, Oklahoma City. "Sisterhood of the Travelin' Shoes" will feature Bishop Judith Craig as keynote

speaker. Workshops for skill building and networking will be included. Registration cost is \$50/\$25 for students. Register online by emailing [revjeankc@aol.com](mailto:revjeankc@aol.com).

### **This Week Is Texas Methodist History Month**

For information and resources, visit [http://txmethhistory.blogspot.com/2010/03/this-week-in-texas-methodist-history\\_20.html](http://txmethhistory.blogspot.com/2010/03/this-week-in-texas-methodist-history_20.html).

### **Clergywoman's Gathering — 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.

### **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](http://www.cefumc.org) to register and get updates on worships, tours, pre/post-conference offerings.

## **Local Congregations & Ministry Groups**

### **Powered up!: Mission team brings reliable electricity to Liberia hospital**

Check this story by Bill Fentum on the UMPortal (<http://www.umportal.org/article.asp?id=6437>) to learn more about a First UMC Arlington project in Liberia. "Until last summer, Ganta UM Hospital in Liberia was often thrown into darkness. Power blackouts in the operating room forced surgeons to work under flashlights while patients' lives hung in the balance. Then a mission team sent from First UMC in Arlington, Texas, installed underground cables to replace old wiring damaged in the 1989-2003 civil war. Now the hospital and a nearby mission school have the region's most modern electrical system. Team leader Steve Vincent hopes the project is only the start for Power from the Son ([powerfromtheson.com](http://powerfromtheson.com)), a non-profit he founded in 2008 after a 32-year career in the utility industry."

### **Three-Night Revival at Mt. Zion UMC, Belton - March 30, 31, April 1**

Mt. Zion UMC in Belton will host a Three Night Revival starting at 7 p.m. Tuesday-Thursday, March 30-Apr. 1. Host for the event is the Mt. Zion UMC Church family. For more information, contact the church at 254-939-5621.

### **Dave Ramsey *Financial Peace University* — Begins April 8**

Lorena UMC will host Dave Ramsey's *Financial Peace University* from 6:30-8:30 p.m. Thursdays beginning April 8. Childcare provided. Most people struggle just to make ends meet. They just have too much month left at the end of the money. *Financial Peace University* is designed to teach you and your family how to get out of debt, stay out of debt, and build wealth. You'll meet with your class each week to watch the video lesson and participate in discussion and accountability groups that will change your whole attitude about money! Cost (\$99.51) includes the classes, *Financial Peace University Membership Kit* which includes a workbook, audio CD library, Ramsey's book, budgeting forms, FPU envelope system, and a bonus CD-ROM. For more details, contact Christie Robbins at 254-857-4283 or [pastor@lorenaumc.org](mailto:pastor@lorenaumc.org)

### **Good Friday Presentation: *Requiem* by Gabriel Fauré — 7 p.m. April 2**

For Good Friday, the music ministry of First UMC Hurst presents this timeless choral work for choir, orchestra and soloists. Based on the requiem mass, *Requiem* is one of Fauré's most well-known works, and will be presented during the 7 p.m. worship service marking the events of the crucifixion of Jesus. First UMC Hurst is located at 521 W. Pipeline Rd., Hurst. Childcare available.

### **Music Events at First Bedford**

First UMC Bedford's (1245 Bedford Rd., Bedford – 817-283-5536) weekly music events from 7 to 8:30 p.m. Thursdays concludes on March 25 with Joanna Seamen. The church will also host the 2010 Inside Out Tour at 7 p.m. Saturday, May 22, featuring Gravity Liberation Front. Contact the church for more details.

### **Memorial Hymn Festival at Acton — March 28**

Music at Acton presents the *H. F. Meier Memorial Hymn Festival* with acclaimed organist Joyce Jones, artist-in-residence at Baylor University, at 3 p.m. Sunday, March 28, at Acton UMC, Granbury. Admission by donation. Contact: Suzanne Cate at 817-326-4242 or [Suzanne@actonumc.org](mailto:Suzanne@actonumc.org).

### **Revival at St. Paul, Georgetown — March 27**

One Night Revival! St. Paul UMC Georgetown will host a One Night Revival at 6:30 p.m. Saturday, March 27, with Joel Robbins (pastor at Mooreville UMC) preaching. Host for the event is the church's Evangelism/Outreach Ministry. For more information, contact Tammy Walton at 512-868-7876.

### **St. Paul Georgetown 137th Anniversary — March 28**

St. Paul UMC Georgetown will celebrate their 137th anniversary at 3:30 p.m. March 28. Guest preacher will be Quinton J. Gibson, Sr. of St. James UMC, Temple. Theme: "More Than Conquerors," Romans 8:37. All are invited to attend. Host: Planning & Events Ministry. For more information contact Dorris Ross at 512-868-5461.

### **Resurrection Celebration at First Round Rock – March 28**

First UMC Round Rock will host a **Resurrection Celebration, a Walk Through Holy Week**, on Sunday, March 28. Resurrection Celebration has become an Easter tradition at First Round Rock with a five-station walk through Holy Week designed to be experienced by children and their families. <http://bit.ly/ac89kBB>.

### **6th Annual Carvey Golf Tournament — March 29**

The Annual Louise & Frank Carvey golf tournament benefiting United Community Centers, Inc. will be held Monday, March 29, at Mira Vista Golf Club, Fort Worth. \$300 per player / \$1,200 per team includes player gifts, golf cart, food, prizes and silent auction. Dress code: collared shirt and no denim. **Reservation deadline: March 19.** For more details, contact Erin McDonald at 817-927-5556 ext. 118 or [emcdonald@unitedcommunitycenters.org](mailto:emcdonald@unitedcommunitycenters.org). [www.unitedcommunitycenters.org](http://www.unitedcommunitycenters.org).

### **Mwangaza Children's Choir at Austin Avenue — April 7**

Mwangaza Children's Choir, a dynamic group from Uganda, will be appearing in concert at 6 p.m. April 7 at Austin Avenue UMC (1300 Austin Avenue, Waco 76701). No tickets are required. The choir is a group of spirited, talented and passionate children from Uganda who represent the needy and poverty-stricken people of Uganda. The vision is to change a child, change a village, and change a nation. [www.mwangazachoir.org](http://www.mwangazachoir.org) For a story and video clip from *The Stateman*, click on <http://www.austin360.com/music/sxsw-music/ugandan-kids-a-sxsw-novelty-353150.html>.

### **Prayer Retreat at Campus Drive Rescheduled to April 10**

Mark your calendar for a new date! Due to bad weather, the Grace UMC, Arlington Prayer Retreat has been rescheduled for Saturday, April 10, from 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. The theme is "Deeper Connections: Take Your Prayer Life Out of the Box" The retreat is designed to jump start your prayer life and explore ways of making a deeper connection with God. Campus Drive UMC will host the retreat at the Administrative Center/Fellowship Hall (1400 Seminary Drive, Fort Worth 76119). There is no registration fee, but please call 817-922-9256 to RSVP. Everyone is welcome!

### **Tarrant Area Singles Presents “Healthier Relationships” — April 9-10**

Come to Still Water Lodge at Glen Rose for TAS's Annual Retreat for single adults this year focusing on building healthier relationships in every aspect of our lives - friendships, family, work, dating/love relationships. This workshop is designed to introduce simple tools for living in relationship. Steve Langford, senior pastor of St. John the Apostle UMC in Arlington will lead the study. Register at [http://ct.brickriver.com/atch/Glen\\_Rose\\_Retreat\\_2010\\_3\\_32\\_32\\_PM.pdf](http://ct.brickriver.com/atch/Glen_Rose_Retreat_2010_3_32_32_PM.pdf). For a virtual tour of Still Water Lodge, click <http://www.visualtour.com/shownp.asp?sk=13&t=1830884>. Keep up with the latest events for single adults in the CTC on the TAS calendar: <http://www.ctcumc.org/pages/detail/970> <<http://www.ctcumc.org/pages/detail/970>.

### **Weekend Retreat for Cancer Survivors — April 9-11**

For 16 years, Harris Methodist H.E.B. Hospital (now Texas Health Harris Methodist Hospital Hurst-Euless-Bedford) has sponsored a free weekend retreat for adults who have received treatment for cancer within the preceding five years. Many "campers" have been currently in treatment when they came to the retreat. It is NOT necessary for the camper to have received his/her treatment at a Harris Methodist hospital. Campers and counselors leave by bus from the hospital on Friday morning, and return Sunday afternoon. The Bluebonnet Retreat is held twice a year at Garrett Creek Ranch Conference Center near Paradise, TX (about 45 miles from the hospital). The next Bluebonnet Retreat will be held April 9-11. **Deadline for submitting applications is March 18.** Download an application form at <http://www.texashealth.org/body.cfm?id=2072>.

### **First Mansfield Hosts Invisible Children tour — April 11**

Invisible Children are on their Legacy Tour and will be screening their new video at FUMC Mansfield. Joining the Invisible Children group is Lillian, a Ugandan advocate, who was featured in their first video, "Go." Other churches are invited to bring their youth groups and friends to welcome Lillian and Invisible Children! All are invited to join them in their efforts to end war and restore northern Uganda. Don't miss out on an opportunity to impact lives in northern Uganda by hearing their story and being a part of something bigger. Resources are available at [www.firstmansfieldstudents.org](http://www.firstmansfieldstudents.org), [www.invisiblechildren.com](http://www.invisiblechildren.com), Facebook <http://www.facebook.com/event.php?eid=333317816275>.

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

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

### **Caring for Creation Conference — April 16-18**

The third annual Caring for Creation Conference, April 16-18 at Mount Sequoyah Conference & Retreat Center, will bring members of the faith community together to learn how they can become better caretakers of the Earth. Canon Sally Bingham, president and founder of The Regeneration Project, will be the keynote speaker. The conference will offer workshops, discussions and fellowship. Register before April 2 and receive the early registration discount. For information about workshops, schedules, leadership and fees, contact Mount Sequoyah at 800-760-8126, 479-443-4531, [programs@mountsequoyah.org](mailto:programs@mountsequoyah.org) or [www.mountsequoyah.org](http://www.mountsequoyah.org).

### **Digital Matters Worship — April 17**

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

their highest potential. Check out more information on this event at <http://www.midnightoilproductions.com/seminar/locations/missouri-city/>.

#### **Laura Edwards Basketball Tourney — April 17**

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

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

The Crime Victims Council, a non-profit organization for crime victims, their families and friends and the community, will sponsor an interfaith worship service at 3 p.m. Sunday, April 18, at the Garden Community Center of Goodwill Industries (4004 Campus Drive, Fort Worth 76119). This event coincides with National Crime Victims' Rights Week in Tarrant County. For more details, contact Sandra Lydick at [sandrallydick@crimevictimscouncil.org](mailto:sandrallydick@crimevictimscouncil.org).

#### **Beth Moore - So Long Insecurity - Simulcast April 24**

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

#### **First Azle Hosts Beth Moore Simulcast — Simulcast April 24**

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

#### **Annual Benefit to Missions — April 24**

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

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

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

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

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

#### **"Celebrating Life through Worship Arts" Benefit Performance — May 15**

Date/time: May 15 from 3:30 – 5 p.m. Location: St. Barnabas UMC Church in Arlington (5011 W. Pleasant Ridge, Arlington 76016) This is a benefit celebration of life through the worship arts,

uplifting God's grace and mercy through praise bands, praise dancers, instrumentalists, songsters and the dramatic acts. During this gathering a silent auction will take place, and there will be refreshments for the nourishment of body and soul. For more information, please contact Luther Henry at [luther@sbumc.org](mailto:luther@sbumc.org) or 817-483-1667 or Chauncey Nealy at [aldersgate1954@sbcglobal.net](mailto:aldersgate1954@sbcglobal.net) or 817-274-0116.

### **Conference UMs Heading to Holy Land — June 8**

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

### **Youth Mission Opportunity in Palmer — June 24-27**

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

### **No Man Left Behind Dallas – October 21-23**

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

## **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=iflTKWnrGalKL3K&s=chKUK5NBKbLQI5OKKsG&m=edIKIWP rHgIWF>)

**UMNS on Twitter:**

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

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

**El' Interprete (Interpreter in Spanish):** (<http://elinterprete.org/>)

**10thousanddoors.org:** (<http://www.tenthousanddoors.org>)

**Rethink Church:** (<http://www.rethinkchurch.org>)

**UM TechShop:** (<http://secure.umcom.org/store/catalog/categoryinfo.aspx?cid=16>)

**UM Global Health Initiative:**

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

**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).

### **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.

***Why Jesus? Answering Tough Questions About Our Savior.*** David Nasser. 4 DVD sessions with leader's guide and workbook. Nasser addresses tough questions people have about Jesus using scriptural truths. Filmed on location all throughout Israel. Bluefish. 4 sessions 14-22 minutes each. 2010

### **Church Demographics**

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

## **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.**

### **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](mailto:westfumc@att.net).

### **Choir Robes**

Palmer FUMC has 24 children's choir robes that they will give to a church that can use them. The robes, in a variety of sizes, are cream colored with cream stoles edged in blue. Call 972-449-3293 for more information!

### **Financial Services Positions**

The Central Texas Methodist Foundation has two positions open in financial services: director of financial services and assistant for financial services. Both positions have extensive relationship with loans to churches, investment services offered to individuals and churches, and responsibilities of administration of these services. A full job description for both positions is posted on the website at [www.ctmf.org](http://www.ctmf.org) under "Special Announcements."

### **Carillons**

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

### **Part-Time Youth Director**

Smithfield UMC seeks a part-time youth director to work with a great group of teens on Wednesday nights, Sundays and any other days as necessary. Experience preferred. Ability to lead praise and worship is a plus. Interested persons may send a resume to Lisa Neslony via email, [pastorlisa@smithfieldumc.org](mailto:pastorlisa@smithfieldumc.org) or snail mail, 6701 Smithfield Road, North Richland Hills, 76182. Deadline for applications is March 30.

## **2 Children's Ministry Positions**

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

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

## **2 Music Positions**

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

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

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

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

## **Church Secretary**

This full-time position requires excellent computer skills; bookkeeping and payroll experience; good communication and people skills; the ability to multi-task in a fast paced growth oriented environment. Prior church secretary experience is preferred. E-mail resume to Robert Porter [robert@porterins.com](mailto:robert@porterins.com) and to Don Scroggs [don.umc11@verizon.net](mailto:don.umc11@verizon.net).

## **Church Kitchen Supplies**

Tongan First UMC seeks donations for their church kitchen — refrigerator, microwave, stove, pots and pans, etc. — from any churches who have extra. Contact: Ofa Tuuholoaki at 817-272-5310 or [tuuholoakio@yahoo.com](mailto:tuuholoakio@yahoo.com).

## **Part-Time Communications Administrative Assistant**

First UMC of Colleyville seeks an experienced, part-time communications administrative assistant and receptionist (M-F 1 p.m.-5 p.m.). This position will create bulletins, church-wide e-mails, newsletters and some web publications. Computer and organizational skills are necessary. Please send resume and/or questions to Chris J. Hayes c/o Janna Elliott at [jelliott@fumccolleyville.org](mailto:jelliott@fumccolleyville.org).

### **Assistant Minister for Youth Ministry**

First UMC, Breckenridge seeks an enthusiastic person to further develop, organize and lead a comprehensive youth ministry with a breadth of perspective and balance of ministry, which includes: leading/involving youth in the *Five Practices of Fruitful Youth Ministry* and assisting/leading in worship and other areas of pastoral ministry. This is a full-time position with salary commensurate with education/experience, contribution to UM pension program and moving allowance. Pastor Jeff Miller willing to accept inquires for a part-time position. For more details, contact Jeff Miller, FUMC, 419 W. Walker, Breckenridge 76424 or [pastor@firstumcbreckenridge.org](mailto:pastor@firstumcbreckenridge.org).

### **Children's Coordinator/Mother's Day Out Director**

First UMC of Waxahachie is accepting applications for the positions of children's ministry coordinator and director of the church's two-day-a-week Mother's Day Out program. FUMC Waxahachie has many dynamic children's ministry programs that are already in place and the church is looking to expand that even more. If you have an active relationship with Christ, experience in working with children and families, and love to work with and recruit volunteers from church and community, please send your resume to [fumcwax.sr.pastor@sbcglobal.net](mailto:fumcwax.sr.pastor@sbcglobal.net). The part/time children's coordinator position can be combined with the part/time Mother's Day Out director position for the right applicant.

### **Director of Children's Ministry**

FUMC Duncanville seeks candidates for director of children's ministry. This part-time position demands a faithful disciple of Christ who is an experienced and well-trained individual with a true passion for children's ministry. They will be responsible for leading all areas of programming for children from infants through sixth grade. FUMCD is a regional church in southwest Dallas County with a dynamic staff and congregation and a proud 150-year heritage of faith and service. For more information, contact Jim Bowden, senior pastor, at [revdrjimbowden@gmail.com](mailto:revdrjimbowden@gmail.com) or 972-298-6121.

### **Pianist/Organist**

The music ministry at FUMC Watauga is seeking a pianist/organist with devotion to Christ and a passion for music. There is one service Sunday mornings, rehearsal Wednesday evenings, and special services throughout the year. For more information contact, Seini Mila at 817-939-8835 or [seinimila@att.net](mailto:seinimila@att.net).

### **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. 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).

#### **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).

#### **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.

**2010 Annual Conference Business / Awards / Recognitions**

## **District Conferences**

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

Fort Worth – 7-8 p.m. May 18 – Edge Park UMC  
Temple – 7 p.m. May 18 – FUMC Temple  
Brownwood – 6:30 p.m. May 24 – Comanche UMC  
Mid-Cities – 7-8 p.m. May 17 – Richland Hills UMC  
Waxahachie – 7 p.m. May 20 – First Waxahachie UMC  
Waco – 6 p.m. May 20 -- [Central UMC \(NOTE LOCATION CHANGE\)](#)  
Weatherford – May 25 – [time and place TBA](#)

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

***Denman Evangelism Award — Deadline April 20*** This award recognizes a clergy, laity and youth whose life and ministry exemplify the teaching of Christ and the Great Commission.

***Scholarships Available Through BOM — Deadline extended to May 1*** The conference Board of Ministry is accepting applications for the several scholarships it administers. Applicants must be a certified candidate for clergy, currently enrolled in a seminary approved by the University Senate.

***Five Star Recognition — Deadline April 15*** This is for congregations to be recognized for their efforts in reaching out to others in need and supporting UM missionaries committed to serving some of the most vulnerable of our sisters and brothers across the globe.

***Morris Walker Award Nominations — Deadline April 20*** The Conference Board of Laity recognizes outstanding service and accomplishment with the Morris Walker Awards — one award to a layperson and one award to a clergy person.

***Newgate Award Nominations — Deadline April 20*** The Conference Restorative Justice Committee recognizes outstanding service for individuals serving within any area of Restorative Justice ministry.

***Disability Education/Awareness Leadership Grants — Deadline April 30*** The Committee on Disability Concerns gives these grants in order to educate and create an awareness of handicapping conditions and issues with two grants to upper classmen or returning UM college student. One grant is for a student with a handicapping condition and the second to a student with a declared major in assisting individuals with handicapping conditions.

***Accessibility Project Grants — Deadline April 30*** The Committee on Disability Concerns gives grants for local churches projects that lead to greater accessibility in their facility.

***Merit, Stephens and Brown Scholarships — Deadline May 1*** The Conference Higher Education Task Force administers scholarships to UM students in the following categories:

**Merit Scholarship** to a first-year student attending a UM-related college or university (amount to be determined by conference wide contributions to the 2009 Student Day offering)

**Stephens Scholarship** to UM student majoring in business or accounting (\$1,000)

**Stephens Scholarship** to UM student majoring in journalism or public relations (\$1,000)

**Dr. G. Alfred & Opal Brown Ministerial Scholarship** for a student planning for ministry as an elder in the CTC at seminary approved by the UM University Senate (\$5,000)

***Bishop's Award for Ecumenism — Deadline April 30*** The Commission on Christian Unity & Interreligious Concerns recognizes a person, clergy or laity, who exemplifies an ecumenical spirit in their local community and/or in their local church and conference relationships.

*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).*