



Central E-Link

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

March 3, 2010

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

Denman Evangelism Award — April 20 Deadline

The CTC is now accepting nominations for the Harry Denman Evangelism Award in the areas of clergy, laity and youth. The Harry Denman Evangelism Award recognizes people whose life and ministry exemplifies the teaching of Christ and the Great Commission. Recipients of these awards, nominated by their local church and selected by the Annual Conference, live their call to "Offer Them Christ" daily as modeled by John Wesley and Dr. Harry Denman, founder of The Foundation for Evangelism that cosponsors these awards. To learn more about the awards, which will be announced at Annual Conference June 6-9 in Fort Worth, and to download nomination forms visit our the Foundation website at http://foundationforevangelism.org/what_we_fund/leadershiprecognition/the_harry_denman_evangelism_award/ or contact Carolyn Stephens at 817-877-5222, 800-460-8622 or Carolyn@ctcumc.org. Nominations should be sent to Carolyn Stephens, 464 Bailey Ave., Fort Worth, TX 76107 by April 20.

Bobby Gilliam to Retire as MCH President

Bobby R. Gilliam, president and chief executive officer at Methodist Children's Home in Waco, announced his plans to retire during a meeting of the Home's board of directors on Feb. 26. Gilliam, who has served as MCH president since 2003, is battling Parkinson's disease. His retirement date will be announced later. "I certainly feel sadness that the effects of Parkinson's have led me to this decision," said Gilliam, 57. "I wish I had many more years to serve in this ministry. However, my sadness is outweighed by my great joy at the thought of the increased opportunities I will soon have to spend time with my loved ones and the realization of the great honor it has been to lead this special ministry."

During his tenure as president, MCH increased the number of children in daily care from 500 to more than 1,400, strengthened its endowment fund, added a residential program in Waxahachie, and expanded services offered in communities throughout Texas and New Mexico. In addition, the Home joined the University of Texas charter school system, added an athletics program for youth on the Waco campus and Boys Ranch, built a recreation and activities center at its Boys Ranch, and implemented a plan to remodel the home units on the historic Waco campus.

Texas Youth Academy Registration Deadline — Friday, March 5

The Texas Youth Academy will be held July 5-17, 2010 at Southwestern University in Georgetown. This event is a joint partnership with other conferences throughout Texas as an opportunity for students with a desire to explore their faith and future. It is for youth going into 11th & 12th grades and the cost is \$750. Registration information can be found at <http://www.txcumc.org/page.asp?PKValue=1134>.

March Registration Deadlines for Great Day of Service

There are two registration deadlines for Great Day of Service, an opportunity for CTC youth to join together for a one-day mission event on Saturday, April 10. Find your church registration form online at www.ctcumc.org/greatday. The Great Day of Service will be in three locations this year — the **Metroplex and Waco with a March 22 deadline and Temple with a March 12 deadline**. Find out which one is best for you and bring your group for a day of service throughout our conference! **These are different dates from what was reported last week.**

Immigration Reform Prayer Vigil — March 7

An ecumenical and bi-lingual prayer vigil advocating immigration reform will be held at 5 p.m. Sunday, March 7, in the White Sanctuary of Acton UMC. Participants will pray for Congress to pass legislation that reflects God's wisdom and love. Organizer Rebecca Lucas says, "Prayer is powerful, and the people of God can make a difference!" Join voices across the nation, including WIN (the Welcoming Immigrants Network), Sojourners, Interfaith Immigration Coalition and the UM General Board of Church & Society. For more information, call Rebecca at 817-578-4156. People of faith, raise your voices!

Can You Give Church Growth a Few Minutes?

Who we are: Gary Lindley, Director of Church Growth & Development
Vicki Eldredge, Administrative Assistant

About us: Dedicated to church growth. Willing to drive. Strong desire to talk (to others).

Our commitment: Gain 2,010 more shareholders to help us offer Christ to the many in need.

Our desire: We would love to come to your church on the Sunday of your choice to talk about the SHARES Program and Church Growth and Development. Our calendars are open beginning the first part of May (we're happy to say that we have churches booked up to that point!).

Our hope: To give every member of our conference the chance to have a SHARE in starting a new church!

How: Call Vicki at 817-877-5222 or 800-460-8622 or email at vicki@ctcumc.org.

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. Entries will be judged by the 100th Anniversary Committee with the following guidelines:

- Logo may be color or black/white
- Incorporated in the logo should be some representation of the following: Central Texas Conference, The United Methodist Church Ministry, 100th Anniversary or Centennial Celebration or 1910 - 2010
- Artwork should be suitable for promotional materials, program cover, medallion and/or lapel pin

Logo designs should be submitted in digital format (TIFF, EPS, JPEG) by April 1 to Carolyn Stephens at Carolyn@ctcumc.org or on flash drive or disk to: Central Texas Conference, 464 Bailey Ave., Fort Worth, TX 76107. Please include a print out of the design along with the digital format and contact information for the artist and church affiliation.

Outdoor Christian Rock Music Festival at Texas Motor Speedway — March 20

Popular Christian rock artists Hawk Nelson, Decyfer Down, Pillar, Emery, Brian "Head" Welch, Project 86, The Letter Black, Wavorly and FlatFoot56 will be performing at "Forty Fest- Resonate! 2010," a day-long music festival on Saturday, March 20, at the Texas Motor Speedway in Fort

Worth from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. For more information, visit www.fortyfest.org or call the festival office at 800-773-7440 x203.

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 is in the heart of Fayetteville, Ark., at the top of a large hill overlooking the city. Mount Sequoyah is host to a number of workshops, meetings, retreats, and training opportunities for our jurisdiction. With the large numbers of guests attending events, the center is in constant need of maintenance and upkeep. The annual volunteer workweek is a time to make sure that big projects get done.

Details at 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 2010 national training event is to introduce you to leading thinkers, major speakers, cutting-edge systems for making disciples and making decisions that make disciples. Participants will leave San Antonio with new tools for coaching individual disciples and coordinating institutional decisions. These tools have the potential to grow your congregation in size and significance. Your team will also establish new contacts, friendships and peer networks that can assist you for years to come. LCI 2010 will help any congregation, especially those with a weekly worship attendance of 350 and more. A sampling of LCI2010 speakers and consultants includes Will Mancini, Dr. Joy Moore, Nancy Ortberg, Will Willimon, Randy Frazee, Lovett Weems, Reggie McNeal, Dick Wills, Bob Whitesel, and Jim Sheppard. For a complete list of speakers and consultants, click the links below. For more information:

Keynote Speakers <http://lci2010.com/conference/keynotes/>
Bishop's Dinner <http://lci2010.com/experiences/bishops-dinner/>
Breakout Speakers <http://lci2010.com/conference/speakers/>
The Host <http://lci2010.com/conference/about/>
Overview <http://www.lci2010.com>

UMVIM Team Leader Training — April 24

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

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

Faithfully Fit Forever Leader Training — April 24

The CTC Health & Wellness Task Force is sponsoring Faithfully Fit Forever Leader Training at 9 a.m.-1 p.m. April 24 at Christ UMC (3301 Sycamore School Road, Fort Worth 76123). Faithfully Fit Forever (FFF) is a non-profit, cooperative community health program created by MeritCare Hospital Parish Nursing and Cardiac Rehab staff. It attempts to eliminate the barriers that keep people from participating in exercise and health enhancing behaviors. To date, over 150 places of worship in 8 states have implemented FFF programs. The \$75 cost includes 16 weeks of programming to get you started, a training manual, educational materials/references, devotional resources and exercise leadership video. More details on the conference website (www.ctcumc.org) under health and wellness.

United Methodist Night at the Ballpark! — May 8

Get discounted 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>.

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) under the heading “2010 Annual Conference” in the lower right quadrant of the main page. This is your one-stop place for hotel information, online registration, fellowship meals, award/scholarship/honors nomination information and the full agenda. ***Please check the deadlines for scholarship applications and award nominations (received to date) at the end of this E-Link.***

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 or 817-326-4252, 578-1701.

News Briefs — The Denomination

InfoServ Changes Effective April 1, 2010

InfoServ, the official information service of the UMC, will become exclusively an e-mail and online information service effective April 1. At that time, telephone support services will be discontinued. Customers will be able to submit questions via e-mail at infoserv@umcom.org. Answers to the most frequently asked questions are also available online at www.infoserv.umc.org. During an initial transition period, callers will be able to leave a message and callback number. Other customer-friendly options such as live chat are also being explored.

Dakotas and Minnesota to Become New Episcopal Area

The UMC's North Central Jurisdiction College of Bishops announced in late January its decision on how it will reduce the number of Episcopal Area from 10 to nine in 2012. Effective Sept. 1, 2012, the Dakotas Annual Conference and Minnesota Annual Conference will be served by only one bishop, but will maintain their current boundaries and structures.

One Great Hour of Sharing Pays UMCOR Overhead — March 24

When the first tremors of the earthquake in Haiti rocked that island nation, UMCOR staff were already in country, strategizing how UMs could help improve the lives of the people there. Their work is a direct result of the One Great Hour of Sharing Offering, which support the operating expenses for those who bring healing and help in our name.

One Great Hour of Sharing makes it possible, when we respond to an emergency like Haiti and now Chile, to know that 100% of our gift goes directly to where the suffering is happening. Especially this year, join in promoting and supporting this ministry. Find resources (at no cost to the local church) at <http://umcgiving.org/specialsundays> or call 888-346-3862.

Bread for the World seeks young leaders

Bread for the World is looking for the best and brightest 20- to 30-year-old advocates to join the next class of Hunger Justice Leaders. Selected participants will attend an advocacy-training workshop in Washington, DC June 12-15. The leaders will be equipped to co-ordinate hunger advocacy efforts in their communities for the next 12 to 18 months. Further information is available at www.bread.org. **The application deadline is March 12.** In a world of plenty, hunger

is an outrage. You have a chance to be part of the solution—to change history for hungry people. Don't miss this opportunity to change our world, and yours. Join Bread's next class of Hunger Justice Leaders. Video: <http://www.bread.org/get-involved/hunger-justice-leaders-training/2010/video.html>.

What's New on www.UMCWorship.org

Week of February 28 – March 6, 2010

Worship Planning Helps: March 7, 2010 – 3rd Sunday in Lent

http://www.gbod.org/worship/default.asp?act=reader&item_id=48482&loc_id=733,32,48

Preaching Planning Helps: March 7, 2010 – 3rd Sunday in Lent

http://www.gbod.org/worship/default.asp?act=reader&item_id=48486&loc_id=733,32,48

Lectionary Hymns: March 7, 2010 – 3rd Sunday in Lent

http://www.gbod.org/worship/default.asp?loc_id=733,14,1173&act=nav_loc

21st Century Worship Resources: March 7, 2010 – 3rd Sunday in Lent

http://www.gbod.org/worship/default.asp?act=reader&item_id=48483&loc_id=733,32,48

“One Day the News Was Grim” – Hymn for Third Sunday in Lent

http://www.gbod.org/worship/default.asp?act=reader&item_id=48542

“Come Sunday” – Singing Difficult Hymns

http://www.gbod.org/worship/default.asp?act=reader&item_id=48549&loc_id=17,1003

Church of the Week: Moose Pass UMC, Seward, Alaska

http://www.gbod.org/worship/default.asp?act=reader&item_id=48539

Serving a Divided Congregation

<http://www.kintera.org/atf/cf/%7B3482E846-598F-460A-B9A7-386734470EDA%7D/Rom12Issue43.pdf>

2010 Funding Conference Scheduled for March 20

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

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 or 800-760-8126. Cost varies from \$325-\$285.

Local Congregations & Ministry Groups

Music Events at First Bedford

First UMC (1245 Bedford Rd., Bedford – 817-283-5536) will host weekly music events from 7 to 8:30 p.m. Thursdays March 4 (Glory to One), 11 (WideAwake), 18 (Some Guy Named Bart) and 25 (Joanna Seamen). They 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.

Tongan First Choir Fundraising

As a fundraising effort, Tongan First UMC Trustee's Choir and the Youth and Children Choirs are willing to sing at any church worship service within the CTC. A love offering or donation will help the church in their building renovations. Both choirs sing in Tongan language and the Youth and Children choir can sign both ENGLISH and TONGAN. Their choirs sang last year at First Hurst, Grapevine and Trinity, Arlington. Contact: Ofa Tuuholoaki at 817-272-5310 or tuuholoakio@yahoo.com.

HIV/AIDS: Critical Questions — March 6

The Wesley UMC (125 Turner St., Waco) will host a program on HIV/AIDS: Critical Questions, Critical Answers for the faith community at 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. March 6 that is sponsored by a number of UM churches in the area and several health organizations. The program features Youth Alive Drama Group. An interfaith candlelight service will be held at 6 p.m. March 7. To reserve your space and for additional information, contact the church at 254-752-1822.

“God, Girls, and Giggles!” — March 6

Laugh! Laugh! Laugh with Linda Evans Shepherd who has the ability to transform with hope, faith, and love. She is a bestselling author (*Heart-Stirring Stories of Love*) and international speaker who says, "I go out because between the laughter, I see God's word transform the lives of my audiences right before my eyes." First UMC of Breckenridge is hosting this event for "a ladies' night out" on March 6. The doors will open at 6 p.m. with dinner at 6:30. Call the church office (254-559-8208) for tickets (\$15).

Central UMC, Waco's BASIC Choir Performs — March 20

Composer Carlos Colon-Quintana will present a premiere of his revised and completed Requiem, Las Lamentaciones de Rufina Amaya and other sacred choral works in a free concert at Holy Trinity Catholic Church (3811 Oak Lawn Ave., Dallas) at 6:30 p.m. March 20. The first part of the concert will feature B.A.S.I.C., the chamber choir of Central UMC, Waco under the direction of Karen Hogue. The composer's work commemorates the Mozote Massacre of 1981 in El Salvador and the assassination of Archbishop Oscar Romero on Feb. 23, 1977. For more details, contact Tino Jalomo at 214-718-2384 or augustmax@yahoo.com or Eugenia Aponte at 310-654-3504 or euaponte@aol.com. The Central UMC group will also be perform the requiem mass Feb. 28 at St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Waco and will leave March 4 to perform in El Salvador.

The Psalms – Prayer and Inspiration — March 21

Trinity UMC in Arlington is sponsoring Dr. Toni Craven from 7 to 8:30 p.m. Sunday, March 21, to talk about the Book of Psalms. Craven, a contributing interpreter of the Book of Psalms for the NRSV Bible will talk about the history of the Psalms and how to use them for prayer and inspiration. You will enjoy her wit and knowledge. Trinity is located at 3321 W. Park Row, Arlington 76013. For questions or to reserve a spot, contact Miriam Georg at Miriam@trinityumcarlington.org or 817-773-1158.

Cancer and End-of-Life Care — March 24

The Coalition for Quality End-of-Life Care is the local host of the *Hospice Foundation of America 17th Annual National Teleconference* on "Cancer and End-of-Life Care" from 11 a.m. to 3:45 p.m. Wednesday, March 24, at the American Cancer Society (3301 West Freeway, Fort Worth). Contact: info@coalitionqec.org or 682-472-0118.

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. www.unitedcommunitycenters.org.

Laura Edwards Basketball Tourney — April 17

The 5th 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.

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!

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! There will be food, fellowship and fun! 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: www.firstmansfieldstudents.org, 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.

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.

First Azle Hosts Beth Moore 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 and click on Beth Moore.

"Father Can You Hear Me?" Benefit Performance — May 15

"Father Can You Hear Me?" will be performed at 4 p.m. Saturday, May 15, at St. Barnabas UMC (5011 W. Pleasant Ridge, Arlington 76016-6220) with tickets (\$20) available at the door. The drama is a new gospel stage play presented by Special K's Special T's, LLC Productions, written and co-directed by Ka'Mili Grayson, and directed by Eric Beasley. The evening benefit will include an auction, liturgical dance and more. For details, please contact Luther Henry (luther@sbumc.org or 817-483-1667) or Chauncey Nealy (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 more details, visit <http://www.eo.travelwithus.com>. Interested? Contact Steve Lallier at 817-424-5704, 214-912-1979 or email 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. Registration deadline: May 31.

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

UMNS on Twitter:

(<http://www.kintera.org/TR.asp?a=olL5LeMPLLeKYLpl&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)

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.

ATTN: Pastors/Stephen Ministers Can Help Cancer Patients

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

Conference Resource Center

New resources highlighted at the Conference Resource Center this week are described below. There are always new resources; check them out! For these and more resources, contact Carol Roszell at 817-877-5222 or 800-460-8622.

The Easter Experience. This DVD-driven small group study makes Easter more than a holiday. *The Easter Experience* DVD is, as its name implies, a truly spiritual experience that has the power to change every member in your small group. The episodes bring the passion and resurrection of Jesus to life through dramatic storytelling and challenging teaching. This unique, DVD-driven study brings the passion and resurrection of Jesus to life through dramatic storytelling and challenging teaching. It consists of six 20-minute episodes, with leader's guide and promotional material.

The True Easter Story: The Promise Kept. Travel with Ray Vander Laan to the land of Israel and discover fascinating truths about the events surrounding the death and resurrection of Jesus. Explore the true depth of the Easter story as it begins 2,000 years earlier with a simple promise between a man called Abraham and God. 3 sessions on DVD. Total running time 50 minutes.

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.

Two 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 817-44-1396 or mplemonw@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 and to Don Scroggs 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 tuuholoaki@yahoo.com.

Kneelers & Altar Items

Resurrection UMC Cleburne is in need of kneelers for their prayer rooms (short sections under 6 foot long preferred) and general altar items (candlesticks, cross, offering plates, etc.). This new church would gladly accept anything! Contact: Pastor Victor Pena at 254-485-3140.

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.

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.

Director of Music Ministry

First UMC of Graham seeks resumes for the part-time position of director of music ministry. The person for this position will be responsible for coordinating music and musicians for worship, directing adult choirs and handbell choir, leading congregational singing in worship and providing leadership for other components of the music program including planning, recruiting and working with staff. Resumes will be accepted through March 10 by mail (First UMC, PO Box 88, Graham, Texas 76450) or email (Richard@fumcgraham.org). Contact for more details: Richard Reed at 940-549-0970.

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. The part/time children's coordinator position can be combined with the part/time Mother's Day Out director position for the right applicant.

Office Staff

First UMC of Hurst has an opening for a part time (20-25 hours per week) office staff person. Applicants should be able to multi-task, have good organizational and computer skills, and enjoy a very fast-paced and professional work environment. Send resumes to Philip Rhodes at prhodes@fumchurst.org.

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 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.

Worship Leader

New Day UMC (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 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.

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.

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.

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 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 – May 18 – Edge Park UMC – 7 to 8 p.m.

Temple – May 18 – FUMC Temple – 7 p.m.

Brownwood – May 24 – Comanche UMC 6:30 p.m.

Mid-Cities – May 17 – Richland Hills UMC – 7 to 8 p.m.

Waxahachie – TBA

Waco – TBA

Weatherford – May 10 – time and place TBA

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 March 31 The conference Board of Ministry is accepting applications for the several scholarships it administers. Applicant 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.