



Central E-Link

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

May 18, 2011

Welcome! This is the conference's weekly update to church leaders — lay and clergy. Articles and requests should be submitted to Vance Morton vance@ctcumc.org or vance.morton@gmail.com 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 name and email address to susan@ctcumc.org.
Editor: Vance Morton

News Briefs — The Conference

Presentations at Annual Conference — May 25 Deadline

A deadline of **May 25** has been set for all presentations at the 2011 Annual Conference that will involve a PowerPoint, DVD or music on CD/DVD. The conference is working with a new A/V production company this year; they will project ONLY those presentations that are received by the deadline date and are previewed prior to Annual Conference. There will be no exceptions. Please send your CD, DVD or Flash drive (with script or instructions if applicable) by **May 25** to Vance Morton, 464 Bailey Ave., Fort Worth 76107. If you have questions, call the conference office at 817-877-5222 or 800-460-8622.

Child Care at Annual Conference- Deadline May 20

Registration for child care at this year's Annual Conference has been extended to May 20. Please submit your forms to Brenda Hafer at Central UMC in Waco. If you have any questions, please contact her at bhafer@centralfaith.com or 254-420-2862.

Orientation for First-Time Lay Members to Annual Conference

Orientation for first-time Lay Members to Annual Conference will not be held in Waco this year, orientation will be held at the district conferences.

NEW Bishop Mike Lowry hosts summer trip to England – July 13-21

Last Chance to Sign Up! Bishop Mike and Jolynn Lowry will be hosting an EO trip to England this summer (departing July 13) for nine wonderful days exploring our Wesleyan Heritage. Cost is \$2,698 plus taxes, etc. We will visit the City Road Chapel in London and its adjoining apartment where John Wesley lived for many years, travel to Bristol to visit the New Room a prominent Methodist "Preaching House," and visit several beautiful cathedrals like St. Paul's in London and the impressive cathedrals at Worcester and Gloucester. Perhaps the highlight of our trip will be visiting the quiet English countryside of Epworth where John and Charles Wesley's father Samuel served the St. Andrews Church for 39 years. Samuel and Susanna raised their family in the Old Rectory that we will visit. Register online at www.eo.travelwithus.com (tour = HE11; Date = 071311L) or contact Dr. Scott Youngblood, Senior Pastor of Trinity UMC in Arlington and the Project Coordinator at 817-275-1345 or office@trinityumcarlington.org.

UPDATE Annual Conference Special Interest Group Events:

Monday, June 6:

- ***Partners in Ministry Luncheon - Everyone is welcome!***

12:15 p.m. Monday, June 6 in the Brazos Room at the Waco Convention Center

Cost: \$12 Please reserve your tickets (**Deadline is May 25**) by the mailing your form to Kim Simpson, Conference Associate Lay Leader, 3905 Lake Powell Drive, Arlington 76016. You can pick up your reserved tickets at Annual Conference from your District Lay Leader.

- **Clergy Spouses' Luncheon** – *Reservations must be made in advance*

12:15 p.m. Monday, June 6 at the Methodist Children's Home in the Johnson Student Center
Cost: \$12.50 (Pay at the door - make checks payable to CTCMSO or bring exact change if paying with cash) For reservations and/or dietary needs, contact Vicki Berry at vickiberry@windstream.net or 254/722-6331.

- **Clergywomen's Luncheon** - *Reservations must be made in advance (Please note time change due to the agenda schedule)*

12:30 p.m. Monday, June 6 at Gratiziano's Restaurant (in the shopping center/restaurant row across from the Convention Center).

Cost: \$10 For reservations, contact Denise Rogers pastorrdumc@yahoo.com or 254/662-3155. Make checks payable to the Wesley Foundation and mail to Denise Rogers at 409 Georgia Lane, Waco 76706.

- **Brite Divinity School Gathering** - The annual gathering of former & present students and friends of Brite Divinity School

5:30 p.m. Monday, June 6 at the Wesley Foundation at Baylor University, 821 Speight Avenue Waco 76706

Cost: \$8 For reservations, contact Richard Reed at richard@fumcgraham.org or 940/549-0970.

Tuesday, June 7:

- **Order of Deacons Breakfast**

7 a.m. Tuesday, June 7 at Austin Avenue UMC, 1300 Austin Avenue, Waco 76701.

All Deacons and Diaconal; provisional, retired or full connection are invited. Please RSVP to Rachel Heyduck at 254/754-4685 or theyduck@austinavenueumc.org.

- **Texas Wesleyan Alumni & Friends Breakfast**

7:00 a.m. Tuesday June 7 at the Brazos Room A in the Waco Hilton Hotel

Cost: \$15 RSVP to Eli Cumpton, Religious Life, 1201 Wesleyan, Fort Worth 76105 or email elicumpton@yahoo.com.

- **CTC UMW AC Luncheon** - *Seeking Peace in a World of Change*

12 Noon Tuesday, June 7 at the Brazos Room, Waco Convention Center (wear blue to the event)

Cost: \$12 Checks should be made payable to CTCUMW. Mail check and a self-address stamped envelope to Kay Swain, 507 Candy Lane, Lorena 76655 - kswain924@aol.com or 254/854-4670 - **Deadline May 27**

- **CTC UMW Ubuntu Day 2011** - Following the UMW Luncheon join us for an Ubuntu Day! *Ubuntu* means "because you are human, I am human" - Please sign up for this "learn & do" mission event.

2:00 - 5:00 p.m. Tuesday, June 7 Meet at Waco Convention Center at 2:00 pm and will return by 5:00 pm. There is no charge for the event, but you must register. Register with Sharion Smith, 7351 Greenacres Drive, Fort Worth 76112, snowflake_1900@yahoo.com or 817/446-5434.

Wednesday, June 8:

- **Perkins Alumni Breakfast**

7 a.m. Wednesday, June 8 at the Methodist Children's Home

Cost: \$10 (check made to First UMC Fort Worth - Perkins Breakfast on memo line)

Mail to Gena Anderson, 800 W. 5th Street, Fort Worth 76102 (**Deadline May 20**)

Contact information: Gena Anderson - ganderson@myfumc.org - 817/339-5067

Paul Gravley - paul.gravley@huttodiscovery.org - 512/876-3592

- **Asbury Alumni & Friends Breakfast**

7 a.m. Wednesday, June 8 – Olive Branch Bakery & Café (across from the Waco Convention Center) 215 S. 2nd Street. We will order from the menu.

For more information contact Lynn Moore at lmoore@edgeparkumc.org or 817/296-8487.

- **Health & Welfare Luncheon**

12:05 p.m. Wednesday, June 8 in the Brazos Room at the Waco Convention Center

Cost: No charge

For further information contact Chris Hayes at cjhayes@fumccolleyville.org or 817/281-5254.

Changes in Conference Communications

As The Exodus Project gets underway, the Central Texas Conference will move into a time of transition beginning with the Annual Conference in June. For the next few weeks, please send all submissions for the *E-Link* to Susan Briles (susan@ctcumc.org). The *Central Link* will end with the May 27 issue, which are already completed. Over the summer months a new plan for communications will be developed utilizing the latest technologies to offer new opportunities for communicating with conference members and the public. Please watch the conference website (www.ctcumc.org) for the latest news and new developments for communicating with you.

Conference Resource Center / Archives & History

Requests for the Conference Resource Center and the Archives & History will be continue to be addressed up until May 31 as long as any borrowed resources can be returned by that date. After that time, the conference will be in a time of transition and living into The Exodus Project. All aspects of Archives & History and the Conference Resource Center will be closed from June 1 to Aug. 31. Please watch for their grand re-opening in September. We are deeply sorry for any inconvenience that this might cause and ask for your understanding, patience and prayers during this time of transition and implementation.

2012 Lay Delegate Candidates on Website

Lay members of the Annual Conference who have indicated an interest and willingness to serve as a lay delegate to the 2012 General and South Central Jurisdictional conference are included in a "booklet" that is posted on the conference website (www.ctcumc.org) under the 2011 Annual Conference banner.

2011 Annual Conference Registration / Note Changes

There will be no online registration for the 2011 Annual Conference in Waco. Registration cards will be placed on the tables for delegates to complete on Monday morning at the Waco Convention Center. Nametags and table tents will be printed based on the information provided by the churches in the web console. If substitutions are made, the delegate attending will mark through the name on the nametag and table tent of the person they are replacing and write in their own name.

Other Preparations for the 2011 Annual Conference — June 5-8

Check Website: Information concerning the 2011 Annual Conference is posted as information becomes available on the conference website (www.ctcumc.org) under the Annual Conference banner on the left side. Annual Conference will be held June 5-8 with business sessions at the Waco Convention Center and all worship services at First UMC Waco. Some construction is still underway at the Convention Center, but all meeting rooms will be complete.

Parking: There will be fewer parking spaces adjacent to the Convention Center, so lay and clergy members may want to consider carpooling.

District Conferences:

Brownwood – 7 p.m. May 23 – Comanche UMC
Fort Worth – 7 p.m. May 23 - Arlington Heights UMC
Mid-Cities – 7 p.m. May 19 – St. Paul UMC, Hurst
Temple – 7 p.m. May 19 – Georgetown First UMC
Waxahachie – 3 p.m. May 22 – First Waxahachie UMC

Giving Back and Giving Forward ... Annual Conference Offering

Glen Lake Camp & Retreat Center has been named recipient of the 2011 Central Texas Annual Conference Offering. More than 18,000 children, youth and adults come to the campsite each year for meetings, retreats and as part of the summer and mid-year camping and retreat programs. Besides the Annual Conference Offering, which will be received during the June 5-8 meeting in Waco, the folks at GLC will be asking individuals and local churches for a variety of

other gifts. Over an 8-week period, GLC will be asking YOU to become a member of the Glen Lake Gift of the Week Club. To learn more about GLC's biggest needs and how your contributions can help sustain this remarkable ministry in our conference at www.glenlake.org or call 254-897-2247.

Videos Sought for GC 2012 Young People's Address

Young People's Ministries is organizing the Young People's Address for the 2012 General Conference. The goal is for two young people (age 11-30) to present the address at General Conference, which will consist of several short video stories from ministries all over the world. To apply as a presenter, send by Aug. 1 a 3-5 minute video that includes:

- you introducing a ministry story from your context
- a one-minute story (a video or a slide show with narrative) of the ministry you're introducing
- some closing remarks
- an explanation of why it is important to you to represent young people in the UMC to the General Conference

For more details check Facebook at SCJ Young People or contact Abby Parker, South Central Jurisdictional representative for Young People's Ministries, at aparker@gbod.org or 210-885-6901.

Petition Submissions Are Welcome for 2012 GC

Between now and Sept. 27, any UM individual, group, church, conference can submit petitions for consideration by the 2012 General Conference, the denomination's top legislative body. For details on how to submit a petition, please check the conference website at www.ctcumc.org.

Relief Kit Delivery to Sager Brown — CTC Collection May 16-20

FUMC Mansfield will be delivering Relief Kits and other supplies to UMCOR Sager Brown (Baldwin, La.) in late May. There will be plenty of room on the truck and the church would love to include any kits that conference churches are assembling. If your church is planning to make relief kits for the Change the World weekend, this would be a great way to get them delivered at no additional cost! Supplies will be collected at FUMC Mansfield (777 N. Walnut Creek Drive, Mansfield 76063) during the week of May 16–20. Please contact Teresa Sherwood, teresas@firstmethodistmansfield.org if you would like to transport your supplies to Sager Brown with the FUMC Mansfield truck.

2011 Spring Storms

A message from Rev. Laraine Waughtal, CTC Disaster Response Coordinator:

We know many want to help with the Spring Tornadoes that have affected a number of states. Currently, trained ERT's (Emergency Response Teams) are responding to the area to help make it safer for others to arrive and help. This will be a long clean-up and rebuild process so there will be plenty of opportunities for all people to help. Please keep in touch with E-Link and the [conference website](#) to see when these states will be inviting mission teams to come and start the rebuilding process.

In the meantime, UMCOR is responding to the needs of all those affected by these storms. Donations can be made to the **2011 Spring Storms UMCOR Emergency Advance #3021326**. One hundred percent of your gift will go to the victims.

UMCOR Responding to Needs in Japan

Continue to check the conference website (www.ctcumc.org) for the latest stories being posted about the UMC and UMCOR's assistance and relief efforts for the people of Japan. The photo may not change, but stories are unfolding almost daily. Many of the photos used by UMNS have been purchased or used by permission from the U.S. military and news wires services. They are not available to our conference, but the articles area. You can help. Donations can be made to **Pacific Emergency, UMCOR Advance #3021317**. Other specific ways to help will be reported as they are determined by those onsite in Japan. For related stories and resources for local

churches, please check the links on the conference website at www.ctcumc.org and Bishop Lowry's blog (The Focused Center banner).

Haiti Earthquake Relief Mission

On Jan. 12, 2010, the nation of Haiti experienced a massive earthquake that eventually claimed over 250,000 lives. The UMC has been working with the Methodist Church of Haiti to rebuild lives and property. By OAS estimates, Haiti is the poorest country in the Western Hemisphere. The nation has had poor and corrupt leadership. Illiteracy is rampant throughout the country. The earthquake only added to the problems of the Haitian people. People of the CTC have 3 opportunities for hands-on participation:

Lara Whitley (senior pastor at Joshua UMC) will be leading a 10-person UMVIM earthquake relief mission team Aug. 3-11. (This team is currently full.)

Laraine Waughtal (pastor at Morgan Mill/Bluff Dale) will lead a 10-person UMVIM earthquake relief mission team Oct. 5-13. This team is currently full and she is signing volunteers for a wait list in case there are cancellations. If you are interested, contact Waughtal at 254-595-1503 or reylaraine@yahoo.com.

George Murphy (member at Salado UMC) will lead a UMVIM earthquake relief mission Oct. 20-28 and has two remaining slots for the 10-member team to serve for one week in Haiti. If interested, contact Murphy at 254-947-0601 or temeg@embarqmail.com.

Youth 2011 — July 13-17 or July 27-31

This is a nationwide UM Youth Conference held every four years. "MORE THAN: You think you are ordinary? THINK AGAIN." It will be held July 13-17 at Purdue University OR July 27-31 in Sacramento (<http://www.youth2011.org/>).

Texas Youth Academy — June 26-July 9

Texas Youth Academy is for high school sophomores and juniors with a desire to explore their faith and future. The two-week academy contains worship, service, arts, theology and exploring your call to ministry. The 2011 event will be held June 26 – July 9 at Southwestern University in Georgetown. Applications are available online and the deadline is March 7. Visit www.texasyouthacademy.org for more details and to register.

Cooperative School of Christian Mission 2011 "All Things Made New"

For those who like to plan ahead, you will want to mark your calendars for the 2011 CTC Cooperative School of Christian Mission. The weekday classes will be Aug. 1-4 at Fort Worth First UMC, the weekday night classes Aug. 1, 2 and 3 from 6 to 8:30 p.m. at Fort Worth First UMC, and the weekend classes Aug. 5-7 at Glen Lake Camp & Retreat Center. Watch for more details on the conference website and in the *Central Link* newspaper. For more information, go to our conference website, www.ctcumc.org and then click on the "Christian Learning & Development Opportunities" banner.

UPDATE Five Day Academy for Spiritual Formation – February 12-17, 2012

A Five Day Academy for Spiritual Formation will be held on February 12-17, 2012 at the Prothro Center in Pottsboro, TX. This is the first Academy to be held in North Texas in over two years. The purpose of The Academy includes providing an experience in spiritual formation and encouraging participants to live out their call through the disciplines of daily prayer. The theme for this Academy is "Holy Time and Holy Rhythm: The Path to Untamed Hospitality" and the presenters are Kathryn Damiano and Loyd Allen. Please visit [North Texas 5 Day Academy](http://NorthTexas5DayAcademy) for more information. To register online, go to our conference website, www.ctcumc.org and then click on the "Christian Learning & Development Opportunities" banner.

Director of Student Faith and Leadership Formation Job Position

The General Board of Higher Education and Ministry is seeking candidates to fill the position of director of Student Faith and Leadership Formation in the Campus Ministry area of the division of Higher Education. The search team is actively seeking a pool of qualified candidates who would be representative of the church. We are requesting your nominations and your assistance in bringing this position to the attention of persons who might be interested in applying for the position. For more information e-mail hr@gbhem.org or visit [GBHEM United Methodist Student Movement](#).

Events & Activities at Mount Sequoyah, Fayetteville, Ark.

iGo Green Famcation - June 29 – July 2: An affordable all hands-on environmental family camp that captures a memorable family experience. Educational Excursion Botanical Gardens, Mad Scientist Party, Nature Hike guided by Arkansas Audubon, Marshall Mitchell & Illinois Watershed Project. iGo Green Curriculum and workshops led by certified teachers and instructors. First 20 families to register get a free night's stay added on to the famcation. Commuter rates available. CEUs available. For flyer: [Mount Sequoyah/iGo Green](#).

Senior Adult Retreats - Leaves of Gold (Oct 17-20) & Autumn Time (Oct 24-27): Save the dates for a retreat filled with worship, fellowship, preaching, Bible Study, excursions, educational workshops and crafts.

Eremos Retreat: Ongoing personal retreat for **all** clergy, **all** the time. Clergy recognize the value of getting away for rest, renewal and life planning. Enter the front gates of Mount Sequoyah and leave your worries on the other side. For a private room and bath a rate of \$30 a day for the first three days, \$50 a day thereafter. For a 2BR cottage with kitchen, washer/dryer and cable, a rate of \$80 a day. For flyer: [Mount Sequoyah/Eremos](#)

For all events at Mount Sequoyah Retreat & Conference Center (150 NW Skyline Drive, Fayetteville, AR 72701), contact Brenda Thorne at registration@mountsequoyah.org or 479-443-4531 or 800-760-8126.

Hispanic Ministries Institute at Brite Divinity School — June 5-10

Brite Divinity School (TCU campus - 2855 S. University Drive, Fort Worth 76129) will host the Summer Latino/a Church studies and the Hispanic Ministries Institute June 5-10. The program has priority for Latino/a ministers and lay leadership. For more details, contact Reina Rodriguez at 817-257-7575. The deadline for registration and payment is May 20.

School of Congregational Development — July 27-31

The School of Congregational Development will be conveniently close this year — Dallas — and especially good opportunity for new church pastors. Check out this year's SCD, scheduled for Wednesday-Sunday, July 27-31, at [School of Congregational Development](#). There will be 15 intensives, 23 ministry tracks and 25 workshops, plus 8 exciting teaching churches. Add it to your calendar now!

Mission Experiences Available for UM Youth in 2011

Youth from UMCs around the nation can learn what it means to serve others next summer by participating in weeklong mission work experiences in Nashville that help children, the elderly, the homeless and people with special needs. For the second year, the youth mission trips will be sponsored jointly by Young People's Ministries, a division of The General Board of Discipleship (GBOD), and YouthWorks!, a multi-denominational youth mission organization, and will be hosted at McKendree UMC in downtown Nashville. The mission experience is open to youth who will enter the 7th grade in the fall of 2011 through current high school seniors. Eight weeklong sessions will be available in 2011, beginning the week of June 12 and ending the week of July 31. Cost is \$248 per person. For more information, visit www.youthworks.com and click on the link for UMCs in the left column.

A United Methodist Studies School – Sept. 6-12

The United Methodist Studies School will be held at Mount Sequoyah Sept. 6-12. The purpose of this course of study is to educate and spiritually form persons entering the United Methodist

Ministry in a retreat setting. In 2011, the course of study offerings will be *United Methodist Doctrine & Polity* and *United Methodist History* which will meet the requirements of the General Board of Higher Education & Ministry and the *Book of Discipline*. Participants will choose to enroll in either one of these courses. For more information concerning this course of study and tuition cost contact Susan Steuber at ssteuber@kswestumc.org or call 800-745-2350 or 316-686-0600. Contact Mount Sequoyah for room and board costs at 800-760-8126 or www.mountsequoyah.com. Deadline to register is August 1.

R.E.A.P. Program Hosted by Texas Conference CEF Group — Sept. 16-17

The Texas Conference's Christian Education Fellowship extends an invitation to attend their Renewing, Equipping, Affirming, Preparing (REAP) program Sept. 16-17 in Houston. Guest speakers include John Holbert (Perkins School of Theology), Mary Jane Pierce Norton (General Board of Discipleship), and Gladys Childs (Texas Wesleyan University). For more details, visit www.ghles.org.

Discounts Available for Wesleyan Pilgrimage — Nov. 7-17

UM clergy and lay leaders who want to follow the footsteps of John and Charles Wesley can take advantage of early-registration discounts for a 10-day Wesleyan Pilgrimage to England in November. Additionally, scholarships are available for provisional members. The Nov. 7-17 pilgrimage is being sponsored by the UM Board of Discipleship and Board of Higher Education & Ministry. An early registration discount of \$400 is available through April 29, and a discount of \$200 will be available from April 30 through July 31. After Aug. 1, the cost will be \$2,395. For more details and a 14-min. video clip. Visit [Wesleyan Pilgrimage in England](#).

Local Congregations & Ministry Groups

Austin Handbell Concert at Action UMC – May 21

Music at Acton hosts the Austin Handbell Choir in concert on Saturday, May 21 at 3:00 p.m. at Acton UMC, 3433 Fall Creek Hwy. This 15 member group plays 5 octaves of Schulmerich handbells and 5 ½ octaves of Malmark handchimes. A free will offering will be accepted at the door. Child care is available by request before noon on Friday, May 20. For more information contact Rev. Suzanne Cate, Suzanne@actonumc.org or 817-326-4242.

The Pedaling Pastor Project — May 21

One of the last projects Dr. Ken Diehm was planning before his untimely death in February was to ride 100 miles to benefit The Villages ministry at FUMC Grapevine. He planned to ride the Cross Timbers Classic (CTC) on Saturday, May 21. FUMC Grapevine will still participate! You can ride just a few laps around the Texas Motor Speedway, or you can ride the whole 100 miles! Those who don't want to ride can still help by providing support through prayers, gifts and service. Since the ride has a safe and secure location at Texas Motor Speedway, it is a perfect way for children and youth to be actively involved in this mission effort. Adult registration prior to May 15 is \$30, \$35 afterward. Registration for kids 12 and under is \$15. The CTC organizers have agreed to donate back 10% of First Grapevine's entry fees to go towards the The Villages if the church can register 100 or more people!! Please be sure that you register using the form linked at www.thepedalingpastor.com in order for the event organizers to track people participating on behalf of First Grapevine's beneficiary. Questions? Contact Steve Isbell at steve@thepedalingpastor.com.

Joyfest 2011 – May 21

The Weatherford District Student Leadership Team is hosting a district wide afternoon event at Weatherford First UMC May 21 from 12 noon-4 pm. There will be music, food and games. It is open to grades 6-12. An RSVP is suggested, but not required, and can be sent to kathryn_gaarz@yahoo.com as well as any questions.

Godspell Production at St. Philip's UMC — June 2-4

St. Philip's UMC is kicking off its community theater project with *Godspell*, a musical depicting the gospel of Matthew in a contemporary setting. The show will be on the St. Philip's stage at 7 p.m. June 2-4. Tickets are \$10 each and available at www.stphils.us/godspell.

NEW Killeen First UMC host 4th Annual Kid's WinShape Camps C3 – June 6-10

This year, the highly anticipated kid's summer camp, WinShape Camps C3, will be located on the new 37,000 square foot campus of First United Methodist Church, Killeen at 3501 E. Elms Road, Killeen, Texas, June 6-10. For the past three years, the camp was held at the Central Texas Community College. Killeen First UMC and the Harker Heights Chick-fil-A[®] Restaurant have partnered with the WinShape Foundation to provide a meaningful camp experience to Central Texas area kids who have completed 1st through 6th grade. WinShape Camps C3 (Camps Connecting Communities) is a day camp facilitated by a professionally trained staff of college students who combine sports, recreation, arts, Bible study and worship in a safe and fun environment. Last year, nearly 200 kids attended the camp. Chick-fil-A[®] founder S. Truett Cathy started WinShape Camps in 1984 with the goal of creating a camp experience that would challenge young people physically and spiritually. Register online at www.fumckilleen.com or contact Debra Longley at debra@fumc-killeen.org or 254-634-6363.

Youth Mission Opportunity in Palmer — June 23-26

First UMC Palmer announces PUMP 2011! PUMP (Palmer United Mission Project) is a four-day mission weekend sponsored by the church for youth groups from across Texas and surrounding areas. Dates for PUMP 2011 are June 23-26. Youth entering grades 4-12 and adults alike are given the opportunity to serve those in need living in the Palmer area. In addition to the mission projects, participants will experience small group study, meaningful daily worship, awesome music and inspired talks. There are many planned activities designed to help everyone let loose, experience God, spread His love and have fun. This is an excellent mission trip for first-timers and/or small youth groups. For more information, contact Debbi Mitchell by at 214-683-1501 or palmerpump@yahoo.com. Space is limited so let the church know if you are interested and a reservation brochure will be sent to you! Reservation deadline: May 15.

Worship Arts Week at Grace UMC, Arlington — June 27-July 1

Grace UMC, Arlington will sponsor the Worship Arts Week June 27 to July 1 from 6:30 to 9 p.m. each evening with a light meal available. St. Albans Episcopal Church (911 S. Davis Drive, Arlington 76013) will host the event. "Swing to the Beat of Praise!" is the theme for this event, which will feature SpeechMakers (Speech Choir), children's and adult music, poetry, drama, art, liturgical dance, praise and raise (connecting worship, mission and service), Hebrew and Greek for worship, Worship in the Bible, and Shake It Up Café (for ages 2-5). There is no charge, but call 817-294-5784 for reservations.

Depression Connection: Understanding, Help and Hope

When suffering from depression, bipolar or a related disorder, learn what helps and what hurts. Research confirms that people who participate in regular support groups often experience a better quality of life and a greater likelihood of recovery from the symptoms of depression, anxiety disorder and bipolar disorder. Depression Connection support group meets Tuesdays from 6:30-8 p.m. in Room 4 of the Heritage Campus of First UMC Grapevine (4344 Heritage Ave.). The group is structured to include approximately 10 individuals and a licensed, trained facilitator. In addition to an opportunity to communicate about one's individual concerns, an educational component is included in each meeting. Questions about Depression Connection? Contact Katherine Hunter at 817-481-2559 x130 or katherineh@fumcg.org.

Career Transition Support Group at First Hurst

NETworkers is a career transition support group at First UMC Hurst for those who are unemployed and actively looking for jobs. NETworkers meets in the church parlor every Monday

for about 1 ½ hours beginning at 9 a.m. Knowing that unemployment is such a difficult situation, the church wants to do something to offer emotional support as well as practical tips for social networking, resume writing, etc. They often have guest speakers. Contact: Sandra Hill at 817-282-7384 ext. 17.

Resources

Helpful Links for Church Leaders

- [Central Texas Conference](#)
- [Infoserve](#)
- [UM Reporter Interactive](#)
- [United Methodist News Service](#)
- [UMNS on Facebook](#)
- [UMNS on Twitter](#)
- [Interpreter Magazine](#)
- [10thousanddoors.org](#)
- [Rethink Church](#)
- [UM TechShop](#)
- [UM Global Health Initiative](#)

Discipleship Resources

The General Board of Discipleship's mission is to support church leaders for their task of equipping world-changing disciples. An agency of the UMC, visit www.gbod.org and www.godfilms.com for more information or call the Communications Office at 877-899-2780, Ext. 1726.

How to Use UMC's TechShop

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

Depression Seminar in Your Church — FREE

Mental Health Facts from the Depression Connection Team: The World Health Organization has reported that four of the 10 leading causes of disability in the U.S. and other developed countries are mental disorders. By 2020, major depressive illness will be the leading cause of disability in the world for women and children. Most people diagnosed with a serious mental illness can experience relief from their symptoms by actively participating in an individual treatment plan. With no cost to your church, the CTC Committee on Mental Health Concerns and Depression Connection Team will provide a seminar for your church. To inquire, contact Tony Campbell at 817-810-9599 or tony@depressionconnection.org.

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 Susan Briles at susan@ctcumc.org to pull your listing when your opening has been filled.

NEW Director of the Learning Tree Preschool

First United Methodist Church, Georgetown is accepting resumes for the position of Director of the Learning Tree Preschool until June 1, 2011. The Learning Tree Preschool is an outreach of First United Methodist Church and is in operation Tuesday through Thursday during the school year. Candidates should have the leadership skills and educational background to develop and implement plans that will maintain a level of program quality that meets the National Association of Educators of Young Children (NAEYC) standards for developmentally appropriate curriculum. The director is responsible for the effective and efficient operation of the school which includes staff development, communication with parents, scheduling, budgeting, and procurement of supplies and equipment. A bachelor's degree with 12 college credit hours in child development and 6 college credit hours in business management and at least one year of experience in a licensed child-care center are preferred. Interested persons may submit a letter of interest, resume, and the names, addresses, and phone numbers of three professional references to Dotty Hooker, Director of Christian Education, First United Methodist Church, 410 E. University Avenue, Georgetown, Texas 78626 or dotty@fumcgt.org.

Worship Leader/Director of Music

Lighthouse Fellowship, a United Methodist Community of Faith, seeks a full-time Worship Leader/Director of Music. This individual will be asked to help provide the highest quality music, worship and arts program possible with sensitivity both to the non-believer, and the believer through a variety of worship styles and experiences. The position will include oversight and direction for areas related to music, drama and other arts forms appropriate for worship. Experience in planning & leading contemporary worship is preferred. Primary responsibilities include working with pastors and worship design team to plan worship; selecting and leading music including choirs and bands; coordinating and/or preparing multi-media for worship; and equipment oversight. Interested persons please send résumés to Bobby Cullen, bcullen@LFwired.org.

Part-Time Administrative Assistant

Epworth UMC, 1400 S. Cooper, Arlington 76013, is accepting resumes for the part-time position of Administrative Assistant. Applicants must be proficient in Microsoft Office, have strong organizational skills, and the ability to relate well with people. Please send resumes or inquiries to epworthpastor@sbcglobal.net

Pianist Needed

Wesley UMC, located in White Settlement (west side of Fort Worth), is in need of a pianist for its 10:45 a.m. Sunday morning worship service and 7 p.m. Wednesday night choir practices. Compensation is negotiable. Please contact Donna McKee at 817-246-1242 to discuss this opportunity.

Part-Time Youth Director

Silver Creek UMC is looking for an energetic person to work with Junior and Senior High aged youth. The position is part-time with full-time excitement! Contact Vaughn Baker at 817-444-1382. The position is open effective June 1.

Pianist/Organist Needed

Lakeview UMC needs a pianist and/or organist on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of each month and on the 5th Sunday of 5 Sunday months. Contact Ron Oden at 254-799-1672 or 254-640-0799 for further information.

Part-time Children's Coordinator Needed

Ovilla UMC seeks an enthusiastic person to develop and administer a children's ministry (pre-K - 5th grade) in a growing suburban church. This person will coordinate and expand a variety of children's ministries in outreach and spiritual formation. The ideal candidate loves children, respects them as potential Christ followers, is committed to healthy evangelism and spiritual

formation for that age group, and has strong relational and organizational skills, with a ministry philosophy of training others and getting work done through teams. This is a newly created position for a part-time staff member. This person will be accountable to and report to the pastor. Contact OUMC at 972-617-8840 or email your resume to ovillaumc@sbcglobal.net.

Choir Library

FUMC Grapevine is in the process of culling anthems from their choir library and offering them to any churches that would like to pick up one or more anthems. The number of copies is a guesstimate. They will go to the recycle bin on May 31, if not picked up. Contact: Norma Ruggiero at normar@fumcg.org or 817-481-2559 ext. 121.

Sound Board/Equalizer

St. Paul Georgetown in need of a sound board/equalizer for the church. If you have upgraded your soundboard, we would like to have your old one if it is in good working condition. Contact Arcynthia Louie at 254-541-1828.

Piano for Sale

FUMC Coppell is selling a Hallet, Davis and Co. piano. It was purchased about 10 years ago and is in excellent condition, both mechanically and cosmetically. It has been faithfully maintained and kept in tune and includes casters and a keyboard lock. (The only flaw is the "short stick" was damaged at some point and has been mended for use, but is not in factory condition.) We are looking for \$6,500 + moving costs - Please contact Mark Pope, director of music at mpope@fumccoppell.org.

Pianist/Organist

Hubbard First UMC is in need of a part-time pianist for Wednesday night rehearsal and Sunday morning worship service. Compensation is negotiable. Contact Dean Coultas at 254-433-0133.

Part-Time Youth Director

First UMC, Corsicana seeks a part-time youth director. Applicants will need to demonstrate a commitment to Christ, a passion for youth ministry, and a theology compatible with the UMC. Experience in youth ministry is a plus. Salary is negotiable. Resumes or inquiries may be submitted to mikea@fumccorsicana.org or by calling Mike Alexander at 903-874-5656.

Director of Student Ministries

First UMC, Cleburne, a growing, vibrant church seeks a full-time director of student ministries. The church has a long history of youth ministry with both Wednesday and Sunday night weekly worship and activities. Over 75 youth currently participate at Wednesday "Fusion" worship and growth potential is unlimited. Participation in CTCYM summer mission trips, Glen Lake camps, and other conference youth activities is at the heart of our ministry. This position has a part-time youth assistant. A complete job summary with all information is available on request. Candidates are asked to send a cover letter and resume to Robert Herzig at robert@fumccleburne.com. With your cover letter, please write a paragraph describing what you're passionate about, and how that passion would impact your work in this position. If email is not an option, please send the same requirements to First UMC, Cleburne, c/o Dr. Robert Herzig, Box 114, Cleburne 76033. Deadline for applications is May 15.

Youth Ministry Worship Leader

There has been a change in contact persons for the First UMC of Fort Worth part-time worship leader for its Youth Ministry. Responsibilities include leading youth worship on Sunday mornings with the youth band, holding weekly practices, and managing the stage and equipment. Additional responsibilities may include special events, going on trips, etc. If you are interested, please send your resume to straz71@yahoo.com or to Adam Straznicky, First UMC Fort Worth, 800 W. 5th St. Fort Worth 76102.

3 Positions at Alliance UMC

Organist / Accompanist — Alliance UMC offers an opportunity for a part-time organist/accompanist. This person will provide organ and/or piano music for Sunday morning worship services to complement the AUMC Chancel Choir and guide congregational singing. Additional responsibilities include accompanying Children's and Youth Choirs and occasional offertory or special soloists (vocal and instrumental). Submit resumes or inquiries to: alliance.pastor@sbcglobal.net. Competitive salary includes continuing education benefits. Contact Jim McClurg at 817-581-1688.

Director of Children's Ministries — Alliance UMC seeks an energetic, organized person with a passion for children's ministry to organize and facilitate all facets of ministry with and for children. This ministry touches the life of the entire congregation including fellowship, worship, discipleship, mission, and evangelism. The director of children's ministries will help plan, organize and take a leading role in organizing and administering children's Sunday school classes, volunteers for various children's ministries, special children's social/ministry functions, and special events/holidays. Also, partner with the Children's Council and other key staff members. 15-hour/week. Send resume, including experience with children's ministry, to alliance.pastor@sbcglobal.net. Contact: Jim McClurg at 817-581-1688.

Parent's Day Out / Creative College for Kids Director — Alliance UMC seeks an energetic, organized person to provide necessary planning, organization, direction, and coordination of AUMC's Parent's Day Out and Creative College for Kids programs. PDO is a twice-weekly program that runs during the school year and provides a creative, nurturing environment for children not yet enrolled in a formal school program. CCK is a series of four weekly summer camps that provide instruction in multiple disciplines (art, science, music, fitness, etc.) in a fun, nurturing Christian environment. The PDO/CCK director will have a position on and work with the AUMC PDO/CCK board of directors to ensure that both programs are organized and run in a manner compatible with the goals and objectives of AUMC. The PDO/CCK director is 12-hour/week during the school year, 25-hour/week during four summer camps. Send resume, including experience with children's programs, alliance.pastor@sbcglobal.net. Contact: Jim McClurg at 817-581-1688.

Part-time Youth Minister

First UMC Coleman seek a part-time youth minister to focus on leading a group of junior high and high school kids to Christ through Bible study, fun activities and some outreach-type work. The group meets on Wednesday evening after a churchwide fellowship meal. A monthly program on Sunday afternoon will also be encouraged as well as Sunday morning worship. Great opportunity for a college student who has an interest in ministry. Pay: \$650/month. Apply with resume by mail to: First UMC Coleman, P.O. Box 852, Coleman 76834. Pastor: Mike Kerzee.

Director of Youth Ministries

First UMC of Stephenville seeks a part-time youth director. Responsibilities include building strong relationships with youth of our church, planning and leading weekly Bible studies and two summer mission trips. The candidate should have a personal faith in Jesus Christ and a desire to guide and direct youth through that faith. Send resume to: FUMC Stephenville, P.O. Box 173, Stephenville 76401.

Part-time Organist/Accompanist

St. John's UMC in Georgetown seeks a part-time organist to share organ and piano duties for Sunday morning worship services, weekly rehearsals, and special events with current organist. Salary is negotiable depending on education and experience and is based on 7.5 hours per week. Contact Justin Langford at justin@stjohnsumc.cc, 512-863-5886, or 311 E. University Dr, Georgetown 78626.

P-T Director of Youth Ministries

First UMC, Mineral Wells seeks a spiritually mature, dedicated Christian with a heart to make young disciples of Jesus Christ. Experience with youth ministry is preferred along with good

communication and relationship building skills. A good understanding of Methodist doctrine is helpful. Will be responsible to plan/coordinate activities for 7 – 12 graders, including weekly Bible study, Sunday school, youth fellowship, fundraisers, and annual mission trips. Salary \$1250 per month. Send resume to: FUMC, PO Box 1466, Mineral Wells, TX 76068 or contact church office at 940-325-4707 for more details.

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.