



Central E-Link

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

September 29, 2010

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

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

News Briefs — The Conference

Conference Alignment Information

Voting members of the Annual Conference will have an opportunity to vote on the new conference alignment plan at a called session on Saturday, Nov. 13, at Mansfield First UMC. In preparation for that time, the Alignment Task Force will provide multiple means for members to see, study and ask questions about the alignment plan.

(1) On Oct. 1 the task force will launch their comprehensive report titled *The Exodus Project: A Transformational Roadmap for a Church in Transition* on the conference website.

(2) District alignment information meetings will be held throughout the conference to explain the alignment plan and allow for questions. All are welcome to attend any of the meetings listed below, although they are especially aimed at lay members of Annual Conference and clergy.

- Brownwood District: Oct. 17 – 4 p.m. at Comanche First UMC
- Fort Worth District: Oct. 20 – 7 p.m. at Fort Worth First UMC
- Mid-Cities District: Oct. 13 – 7 p.m. at Euless First UMC
- Temple District: Oct. 28 – 7 p.m. at Salado UMC
- Waco District: Oct. 18 – 7 p.m. at Central UMC, Waco
- Waxahachie District: Oct. 11 at 7 p.m. at Waxahachie First UMC
- Weatherford District: Oct. 10 – 2 p.m. at Couts Memorial UMC, Weatherford

(3) At 3 p.m. Oct. 24, Bishop Mike Lowry and Alignment Task Force Chair Rev. Mike Ramsdell will conduct a live-streamed event from the TV studio at Fort Worth First UMC that will be accessible on the conference website for all those who are interested in the alignment. Questions may be asked during the streaming via digital format, which will be outlined closer to the date.

(4) Dr. Georgia Adamson, assistant to the bishop and director of Mission Ministries, will be the information contact person on alignment matters, and can be reached at 817-877-5222.

10 FOLD: 10 Days. 10 Projects. Be Counted — Oct. 10-19

A Participant's Guide, which can be downloaded at www.10-fold.org, includes:

For 10 days in October, you will be able to learn about mission projects of the General Board of Global Ministries around the world supported through The Advance, the designated giving arm of the UMC, during an online event unlike anything you have experienced before. It's called 10-Fold. Through live webcasts, streaming video, online chats, and other media at www.10-Fold.org, you will see and hear about amazing efforts that are changing people's lives. Here is the daily preliminary schedule of projects — subject to change — that will be featured at www.10-Fold.org:
Oct. 10: Haiti Recovery – 3,000 humanitarians helping a country rebuild itself

Oct. 11: Children's Health & Wholeness – Transforming communities so that children can live healthy and whole lives

Oct. 12: Missionaries in the US – Dedicated men and women living their faith through remarkable service

Oct. 13: Missionaries Around the World – Growing a global force for faith and hope in over 60 countries

Oct. 14: Training Church Leaders – Training the thousands called to devote their lives to Christ and the Church

Oct. 15: Church Planting Worldwide – From Asia to Latin America, introducing the United Methodists and sharing the gospel through word and deed

Oct. 16: Justice for Our Neighbors – Church-based teams helping refugee-seekers and immigrants navigate their way as they start their lives in the United States

Oct. 17: Clean Water and Sanitation – Helping families in Africa and South America gain access to safe water and sanitation facilities

Oct. 18: Healthcare in Africa – Combating disease in 22 hospitals and clinics across Africa

Oct. 19: Sustainable Agriculture – Training farmers so rural families and communities can thrive

10-Fold is about multiplying ministry and mobilizing passionate people to stand up and be counted for the causes they believe in. Sign up as an advocate for any of these projects and your signature will generate a \$1 donation. Spread the word through: Facebook at

<http://www.facebook.com/GlobalMinistries> and

<http://www.facebook.com/event.php?eid=126405637388518&index=1>, Twitter at

<http://twitter.com/ConnectnMission>, and e-blasting all your friends, family and associates.

Ex-Offender Scholarship Fundraiser

The Tarrant County Restorative Justice Center presents the Honorable Judge L. Clifford Davis scholarship program Oct. 9 — 6-8 p.m. at Campus Drive UMC (4301 Campus Drive).

Guest director is Marion Douglas (St. Andrew UMC-Fort Worth) and featured artists are

"PNEUMA," Fort Worth D.R.C. praise team (Texas Department of Criminal Justice) and First Mansfield UMC Chancel Bell Choir. For more information contact Penny Yaites at 817-719-5978.

Proceeds benefit ex-offenders who seek to obtain post-secondary education.

Oct. 7 Deadline Only 1 Week Away for Ordering Centennial Celebration Tickets

Centennial Celebration — Oct. 23 at Will Rogers Center, Fort Worth

The Central Texas Conference Centennial Celebration is one of those once in your lifetime events. Obviously, this is the 100th anniversary of the conference and activities for Saturday, Oct. 23, revolve around (1) recognizing and celebrating how we have lived out God's call for reaching out in our churches and in our communities, (2) entertainment and festivities throughout the day of celebration, and (3) casting a vision for our future. What can you and your family expect at the Centennial Celebration at the Will Rogers Center in Fort Worth?

- 212 churches/ministry groups will have table displays showing what makes them special
- skits and reenactments of significant periods in our past 100 years – all put together by members from our Student Leadership Team
- 10 music groups will perform on 3 stages / lots of styles to suit all tastes
- 2 religious dance teams (Tongan and St. James, Temple liturgical dancers)
- favorite hymns sing-a-long
- strolling entertainers
- clowns, minstrels, mimes and face painting — just because they're fun
- circuit rider
- barbeque lunch / hot dogs for the smaller kids
- youth hangout area and activities
- a few history-related dignitaries
- casting the vision for the future by our bishop

For more details and to order your tickets, visit www.ctcumc.org and click on the Centennial logo.

And remember, everyone needs to order a ticket (which includes lunch) — even those who are bringing display tables. **The deadline for purchasing tickets is Oct. 7. NO TICKETS WILL BE SOLD AT THE DOOR ON CELEBRATION DAY.**

UPDATE on the 2010 Building on Faith Habitat House

Thank you to all those you responded to this listing last week. Only 9 shifts remain for UM churches in Tarrant County to help with the Veronica Angulano Habitat for Humanity house that begins construction Oct. 8 at 3201 Royal Crest, Fort Worth. The dedication of the completed homes will be Dec. 4. Slots still open for church volunteers are:

Fri, Oct 8 8:00-3:00	Frame/build walls	13 volunteers needed
Sat, Oct 9 8:00-11:30	Frame/plumb, sheath	5 volunteers needed
Sat, Oct 9 11:00-3:00	Frame/plumb, sheath	7 volunteers needed
Fri, Oct 15 8:00-3:00	Frame/trusses	24 volunteers needed
Sat, Oct 16 8:00-3:00	Frame/trusses, fascia	8 volunteers needed
Fri, Oct 22 8:00-11:30	Frame/decking	24 volunteers needed
Sat, Oct 30 8:00-11:30	Siding/cornice, siding	4 volunteers needed
Sat, Nov 6 8:00-11:30	Siding/siding, paint	8 volunteers needed
Sat, Dec 11 8:00-12:00	Landscape	18 volunteers needed

All activities are subject to change due to weather, sub-contractor success, and speed of volunteers. To schedule your church or for individual volunteers, contact Troy Chapman at the Metropolitan Board of Mission (metroboard-umc-tc@sbcglobal.net). So far, \$45,161 has been raised toward the goal of \$58,000. Can you or your church help?

2010 Thanksgiving Offering and Bible Study on Hunger

Each year the CTC Task Force on Hunger designates recipients for the *Thanksgiving* offering. The offering is split 90/10 with recipients rotating annually between local and global ministries. This year the offering will go to: 90% Central Texas Conference Hunger Ministries, 10% Haitian Creole Pig Project, Advance # 418002. We also introduce to you a two-week Bible study as an accompaniment to the offering. *Hunger, The Enemy at the Table, A Bible Study on Hunger* was developed by CTC Task Force on Hunger chairperson Rev. Lana Bradley, and will provide your groups with important information about hunger and our call as Christians to respond. For more information about the Thanksgiving Offering and the accompanying Bible Study, please visit the Task Force on Hunger webpage under the Ministries area of the conference website at www.ctcumc.org or <http://ctcumc.org/pages/detail/902>.

Evangelism Training Opportunity

Hundreds attending the Annual Conference in June signed a Holy Covenant document promising to “heed Jesus’ call to ‘make disciples of all nations’ by extending the hand of Christian witness to at least two people each week.” The Conference Evangelism Task Force, mainly Rev. Joel Robbins (chair) and Rev. Brad Brittain, have been providing training to churches that are interested in adopting what Bishop Robert Schnase refers to as “radical hospitality.” The two pastors are committing their Thursday evenings to provide this training for local churches and/or clusters of churches anywhere in the conference. About 80% of the training includes inspirational ideas for **being invitational** (Matthew 28) and another component tied to success stories in other churches and the resulting changes in the lives of individuals and the congregation. To schedule a time for your church or cluster of churches, please contact Carolyn Stephens at Carolyn@ctcumc.org.

Strengthening the Black Church for the 21st Century — Sept. 30

On Sept. 30, Church Growth & Development is hosting Dr. Fred Allen, director of the UM program on *Strengthening the Black Church for the 21st Century*. Allen will be sharing new resources and training to local churches. Bishop Lowry and members of the Cabinet will be sharing this time with the group. Clergy are urged to bring at least two laypersons with you. Campus Drive UMC will host the event at their Administrative & Ministry Center (1400 E. Seminary Drive, Fort Worth

76115) from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 30. Lunch will be served. RSVP to Vicki@ctcumc.org.

Glen Lake Adventure Race — Oct. 9

Join the first annual Glen Lake Adventure Race on Saturday, Oct. 9, at Glen Lake Camp & Retreat Center, Glen Rose. Teams of 2 will run/bike/paddle/climb their way around Glen Lake with a few fun surprises along the way! Team categories: Men, Women, Co-Ed, and Youth (5th-12th grade). Prizes awarded for the top three teams in each category. This is a course that anyone can do. Never done an adventure race before? But up for the challenge? Not a problem. This race will be a fun day of getting to enjoy the outdoors and a little friendly competition along the way. All proceeds from the race go to support the ministry of Glen Lake Camp. Please visit <http://www.glenlake.org/recreation> for further details and to register!

Strengthening Families in the Local Church — Oct. 16

The Conference Nurture Council will present a seminar on “Parenting Skills Curriculum” starting at 9 a.m. Oct. 16 at Burlison First UMC. Registration is \$12 before Oct. 1, \$15 from Oct. 1-15, and \$20 at the door. The goal is to provide opportunities for teachers, pastors and other church leaders to review and understand that teaching parenting skills is possible in their local setting. Keynote speaker Dr. Katie Long will address the theological rationale for the church to teach parents how to raise their children. Following that presentation, participants may choose up to three workshops on curriculum for the local church. Each of the workshops will provide information and resources that local church leaders can use to provide excellent training for parents and leaders who want to raise healthy, happy, responsible children. This conference is intended to increase spiritual growth, transform existing churches and help develop a whole new generation of principled Christian leaders. Check the Conference website (www.ctcumc.org) for more details. The registration brochure and more information about these workshops and leaders can be found from the calendar or on the Nurture Council, Marriage and Family page.

Join a Crop Walk in Your Area

Join a Church World Service CROP Walk in any of 3 CTC communities. CROP Hunger Walks help children and families worldwide -- and right here in the U.S. -- to have food for today, while building for a better tomorrow. Each year some 2 million CROP Hunger Walkers, volunteers, and sponsors put their hearts and soles in motion, raising over \$16 million per year to help end hunger and poverty around the world and in their own communities. Check out www.churchworldservice.org for more information. CROP Walks in our area this fall:

- Oct. 10 — Waco
- Oct. 10 — Mid-Cities (in Bedford)
- Oct. 17 — Georgetown
- Oct. 17 — Fort Worth (see www.tarrantareacc.org for details)

The Sower’s Bag Sermon Writing Retreat — Oct. 25-27

The Conference Order of Elders is sponsoring The Sower’s Bag Sermon Writing Retreat Oct. 25-27 at Still Water Lodge in Glen Rose. This sermon writing retreat seeks to help inspire, facilitate and lead interested clergy in planning sermons for the Advent and Christmas season. Dr. David Mosser, senior pastor at Arlington First UMC, will lead exegetical and study sessions in a lecture/worship format with lectionary and thematic tracks. Time will be set aside for small group fellowship and discussion as well as time to write and plan sermons. Mosser has been the contributing editor for Abingdon’s Preaching Annual since 2003, and is a regular contributor to Preaching Magazine, The International Lesson Series Annual, Adult Bible Studies and Lectionary homiletics. For a flyer and registration form, visit <http://www.ctcumc.org/pages/detail/1459>.

Self-Care for Clergy Program Coming Nov. 8-9

The Self-Care for Clergy Workshop is designed to provide a break from day-to-day responsibilities and allow for reflections, reviving and renewing the spirit and potential that effective ministry requires.

Servant Leadership: Personal and Professional Self-Care

Nov. 8-9 – Summers Mill Retreat Center, Belton

Register by Oct. 15 • 254-939-6194 or www.summersmill.com

Schedule: 5:30-9 p.m. Monday; 8:30 a.m. – noon on Tuesday. Cost: \$85/person. Participants in the Virgin Health Miles program will be given a 1,000-mile award for participating in Self-Care for Clergy. Register at www.ctcumc.org under “Ministries” and choose Health and Welfare.

Faithfully Fit Forever Leader Training — Nov. 13

The CTC Health & Wellness Task Force is sponsoring Faithfully Fit Forever Leader Training at 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Nov. 13 at Keller First UMC (1025 Johnson Road, Keller 76248). 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 Ministries/Health and Wellness.

“Can We Talk” Conference — Nov. 19-20

Bishop W. Earl Bledsoe and the North Texas Conference extend an invitation to attend the 3rd Annual “Can We Talk” Conference. The goal of the CWT Conference is to educate, equip and empower the African American church leadership to facilitate the revitalization of African American UMCs. St. Paul UMC in Dallas will host the event from 1 to 3 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 19-20. Registration: \$50 (Includes Meals). For details, check the NTC website at www.ntcumc.org.

Looking for that next international mission trip?

Bahamas Methodist Habitat

http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?llr=8vuxradab&et=1103647130968&s=0&e=001nFif_GMcnNaGTKH4EOhBJYqPdsvxludCGiCBIDC8zU6PKbdSnwagK_5M1gnYTzqKCVNbaZOajcvVEFQA243wV2HKaDcFMhPUWOxUxZ-4piY= is an organization that works with disaster response and continuing poverty in the Bahamas Islands. Join the executive director, Abraham McIntyre, for an informational session about how to get *any group* in your church involved at 10 a.m. Tuesday, Sept. 21, at FUMC Burleson. If you would like to meet individually with Abraham to plan out your trip, he will be available for appointments on that day only. Please RSVP joy@ctcumc.org for the info session or to set up an appointment.

News Briefs — The Denomination

CORRECTION to NYT Story

In a story that has since been corrected online, *The New York Times* listed the UMC as a sponsor of an upcoming rally on the National Mall in Washington, DC. The UMC is not co-sponsoring the rally. The General Board of Church & Society has endorsed the principles of this event, though they are not a co-sponsor nor did they have a role in the planning or financial support. Also, Amy Stapleton, a staff person at the General Commission on Religion & Race, was identified in the article as a spokeswoman for the UMC. Rev. Stapleton was speaking on her own behalf, not on behalf of the denomination.

Foundry UMC Allows Same-Sex Marriages

Members of Foundry UMC voted 367 to 8 on Sept. 26 to allow same-gender marriages to be performed in its building. Foundry is among many congregations in Washington, DC, that have been discussing same-sex marriages since the city passed the Marriage Equality Act last March.

The Book of Discipline, the denomination's rulebook, says it is a chargeable offense for a clergy person to conduct a holy union or marriage for gays and lesbians. Following Foundry's vote, Washington Area Bishop John R. Schol released a statement to clergy and lay leaders in the Baltimore-Washington Annual Conference. "In the midst of these difficult matters of the church," he wrote, "I will do all I can to be fair and compassionate as I work to maintain the unity and witness of the church." But as a bishop, he noted, he is responsible for upholding church law and "will process and follow through with any complaint or charge against a UM clergy person of the Baltimore-Washington Conference who performs a same gender wedding or holy union." More information is available at <http://www.foundryumc.org/?tr=y&auid=7072639>.

United Methodists Share in Sand Creek Sorrow

SAND CREEK MASSACRE NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE, Colo. (UMNS) — Under a cloudless blue sky, Otto Braided Hair turned to the east and prayed for his Cheyenne ancestors. Behind him, a group of UMs had formed a circle on a ridge above the place where, nearly 150 years ago, troops led by Colonel John Chivington — a Methodist minister — brutally slaughtered occupants of a Native American camp. See the 2012 Act of Repentance slideshow on YouTube at <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tQMnYoRoLUg&tr=y&auid=7071322> and see the full story at <http://www.umc.org/site/apps/nlnet/content3.aspx?c=IwL4KnN1Lth&b=5259669&ct=8716833&tr=y&auid=7071485>.

New Rethink Church Website & Advent Resources

Rethink Church congregational resources have moved to UMCom.org/RethinkChurch. Check out the Advent resources at <http://www.umcom.org/site/apps/nlnet/content3.aspx?c=mrLZJ9PFKMG&b=6084885&ct=8648985¬oc=1&tr=y&auid=6982254>.

Church Security Training Seminar — Oct. 19

Receive a free workplace violence prevention video program just for attending (limit 1 per church). Take advantage of the many benefits by attending a one-day church training seminar sponsored by the Center for Personal Protection and Safety. Select between: Oct 19 - Springcreek Church, 2660 Belt Line Road, Garland, TX. Registration: \$149, and all participating churches will receive Flash Point: Recognizing and Preventing Violence in the Workplace - a \$695 value! To register for this seminar or to find future dates and locations, contact Jerry McConnell at 509-252-8533 or via email at jerry.mcconnell@cppssite.com.

2011 Congress on Evangelism — Jan. 4-7

The 2011 Congress on Evangelism, scheduled for Jan. 4-7 at Myrtle Beach, SC, is sponsored by the Council on Evangelism and the General Board of Discipleship with the support of The Foundation for Evangelism. The congress meets every January at different locations presenting motivational speakers and workshops based on evangelism. For more details about the event, principal and workshop speakers, visit <http://congressonevangelism.org/>. The Foundation for Evangelism provides a limited number of scholarships for first-time attendees.

Local Congregations & Ministry Groups

Gospel Night at Davis Memorial UMC — Oct. 2

David's Song will be at Davis Memorial UMC (5301 Davis Blvd., North Richland Hills) Saturday, Oct. 2 at 6:30 p.m. They have received awards from STGMA for musician of the year, trio of the year and song of the year. They will sing old standards, new originals and share testimonies. So if you have heard David's Song, come and say hello to old friends. If you have never heard them, you won't want to miss this special night of praise. Bring your favorite covered Italian dinner at 5:30 p.m. Eat and then enjoy David's Song.

Just Say Know Biblically Based Sexuality Education — Oct. 1 & 2

On Friday-Saturday, Oct. 1 and 2, the Methodist Children's Home will host a training event for the "Just Say Know" Biblically Based Sexuality Education. Rev. Linda Goddard, the author of the curriculum, and her husband Richard, will lead the training. Training begins Friday from 7 to 10 p.m., and continues Saturday from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. MCH has had great responses from students and staff when they have used this curriculum previously. Cost of the training is \$20 per person, which includes lunch Saturday and your own copy of Student Resource Manual. Contact: Chaplain Steve Heyduck at <http://methodistchildrenshome.org/> or 254-750-1310.

Children & Youth Worker Training: The Basics — Oct. 1-2

Friday-Saturday, Oct. 1-2, at FUMC Weatherford (301 South Main St., Weatherford 76086-4305) <http://www.ctcmmc.org/churches/detail/1297> Christian Ed Basics is a weekend training experience for leaders in children and youth ministries. It is open to any children or youth ministry leader, new or experienced, volunteer or paid, full time or part time. At Christian Ed Basics, you get an introduction to information and tools you need to succeed in children or youth ministries. Brochure at http://ct.brickriver.com/files/oFiles_Library_XZXLCZ/conference_brochurefinal_2DKUXFGW.pdf.

Do You or Someone You Know Struggle with Depression? There is hope!

Free Depression Seminar

Sunday, Oct. 3 | 2-5 p.m. | Smithfield UMC

Tony Campbell will offer inspirational insight into the struggle of living with mood disorders. Tony is not just an expert with lots of facts and figures; he lives daily with the challenges of bi-polar disorder. His life journey has motivated him to gather information to help others living with the daily challenges of mood disorders. His presentation offers information that combats stigma, provides knowledge about depression and related disorders, and offers guidance for self-help and for helping others. This seminar will help you "become hopeful as you gain confidence about things that help." Sponsored by Smithfield UMC Stephen Ministers. All are welcome!

Meadowbrook UMC to Share Music in England

Meadowbrook UMC, in conjunction with three other UM chancel choirs in Texas (Odessa, Deer Park and St. Paul of Amarillo) is offering a trip of a lifetime to England on June 14, 2011. This Methodist-based tour will include performances in several of the locations where John Wesley's influence was realized. Concerts given by the combined choirs will be in such venues as Coventry Cathedral, The Collegiate Church of St. Mary in Warwick, Methodist Central Hall, and the Wesley Hall and Chapel. This tour is not just for choir members! Rather, they are extending the invitation to anyone in the CTC. Participants will have the opportunity to tour many Wesley-related attractions, attend musical productions, and eat some of the most fabulous foods of the English culture. Cost of this 7-day trip is \$2,476.41 (double occupancy). There are only 15 openings remaining, and a first payment of \$300 is due Oct. 4. If you would like more information on this incredible Wesley experience and think you would enjoy this celebration of song and worship, contact Choir Director Robert Stovall (rstovall@sbcglobal.net) or Diane Griffin (dianegriffin@aol.com or 817-877-0988).

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.

Advanced Lay Speaking Training — Oct. 8, 9, 16

Advanced Lay Speaking Class: Lay Speakers Preach

Dates: Friday, Oct. 8, 6:30-8:30 p.m.; Saturday, Oct. 9, 8:30 a.m.-1 p.m.; Saturday, Oct. 16, 8:30 a.m.-1 p.m.

Location: FUMC, Mansfield

Cost: \$8.70/participant

Contact FUMC Mansfield or email cindib@firstmethodistmansfield.org to register.

Lay Speaker Course / Temple District — Oct. 9

Lay speaker courses being offered to all in the Temple District:

Saturday, Oct. 9, 9 a.m. – 6 p.m. at Temple Oak Park

Basic — planning underway by Pam Dieckert, Temple District Lay Speaker chair

Basic Lay Speaker Training — Oct. 16-17

Oct 16: 9-5 and Oct 17: 2-6. Location is Waco Central UMC (5740 Bagby Ave, Waco 76712).

Course book will be “*Lay Speaking Ministries Basic Course Participant's Guide*.” You will need to purchase the book from Cokesbury prior to the course. Book cost is \$8.80/more with postage at Cokesbury. Point of contact: Buster Mangham at murtdvet@yahoo.com or 254-644-1700.

Maximizing Emotional Connections Conference — Oct. 14-17

Whether you are counseling, preaching or leading an organization, your effectiveness will be greatly impacted by your capacity to connect with others emotionally. Want to learn more about the “how and why” of emotional connection? The Tomkins Institute presents Maximizing Emotional Connection Oct. 14-17 at First UMC Fort Worth. Sponsored by the Center for Creative Transformation at First UMC of Fort Worth, Wesleyan University, The Institute for Restorative Communities and the University of Illinois at Chicago Medical School, this conference brings presenters from across the globe to offer presentations on topics like the neurobiology of attachment, cognition and emotion, understanding the dynamics of emotion in organizations and relationships, etc. Experts in these respective fields will explore application to church, school, business, criminal justice and psychotherapy. For more information, visit www.tomkins.org or contact Charles Gaby, MA, LPC at 817-339-3881.

Learn Skills to Support a Lasting, Healthy Marriage — Oct. 16

The marriage education course, Growing Love in Christian Marriage, will be offered at Texas Wesleyan University from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 16. This course is certified by the state of Texas so that couples who participate will receive a certificate for a discount of \$60 on their Texas state marriage license. Robyn Bone, a College and Career Counselor and a Professional Counselor/ Marriage and Family Therapist graduate student at TWU, will lead the premarital counseling workshop. The cost of the workshop is \$10 per couple to learn skills to support a lasting healthy marriage. RSVP to Robyn Bone at rbone@txwes.edu. To register, send an email including the couple's name(s), email address, and phone number. Mail or drop-off a check or money order payment for the \$10 fee per couple (make check/money order out to Texas Wesleyan University). Mail to: Attn: Robyn Bone-GLCM, Office of Career Services, Texas Wesleyan University, 1201 Wesleyan St., Fort Worth 76105. For more information, email glcm@career-marriage.org.

It's 110 Years for Thompson Chapel — Oct. 17

Thompson Chapel will be celebrating 110 years of praising and serving God with a special

service at 4 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 17. Contact for more details: Twinkle Stubbs at thompsonchapel@sbcglobal.net or 817-626-9404.

Older Adult Retreat at Mt. Sequoyah — Oct. 18-21

Trinity UMC, Arlington is taking a group of older adults to the *Leaves of Gold Older Adult Retreat* at Mt. Sequoyah in Fayetteville, Ark, Oct. 18-21. The keynote speaker is Bishop Richard Wilke, retired Bishop in Residence at Southwestern College in Winfield, Kan. Kathey Youngblood, wife of Trinity pastor Scott Youngblood, will lead a retreat workshop on the art of quilting. Trinity is inviting anyone who would like to attend the retreat to share the cost of transportation via the rental of a mini-bus. You may register for the retreat at www.mtsequoyah.org, and then confirm your transportation reservation by calling Brenda Beaver at 817-274-1345 as soon as possible.

Jamaican-A-Difference 5K Race/1 Mile Fun Run – Oct. 23

Trinity UMC Arlington and Trinity Student Ministries is hosting the "Jamaican-A-Difference 5K Race/1 Mile Fun Run" on Saturday, Oct. 23 at 8 a.m. Registration is \$20 and includes a t-shirt, racing bib and more. The race begins and ends at Trinity UMC. All proceeds will help send senior high youth and their adult sponsors on a December mission trip to work with orphans in rural Jamaica. Anyone interested in racing or just supporting a good cause is invited. For more information, you can contact Erin Jackson at erin@trinityumcarlington.org or Christina Norris at christina@trinityumcarlington.org. Registration is available online at www.jamaicanadifference.com or in person at Trinity UMC, 3321 W. Park Row Dr., Arlington 76013. Call 817-274-1345 for additional information.

Morningside Class Sponsors Nets for Kids — Oct. 30

The Raven Sunday School Class at Morningside UMC (2860 Evans Ave., Fort Worth) is sponsoring "Nets for Kids" event from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Oct. 30. This event is designed to raise funds to purchase nets to help in the fight against malaria for the children's peers in Africa. The Raven class invites your participation in this event. Be ready to horse riding, bounce house, water dunking, other fun games and activities as well as good eats. If your older elementary children's class or Children's Ministry is interested in being a co-sponsor, contact Helen Grape, 817-846-2723 or Peggy Nuttroy, 817-205-2522.

Resources

Helpful Links for Church Leaders

- **Central Texas Conference:** (www.ctcumc.org) features and other content changes daily
- **InfoServ:** (<http://infoserv.umc.org>)
- **UM Reporter Interactive:** (www.umportal.org)
- **United Methodist News Service:**

(http://www.umc.org/site/c.lwL4KnN1LtH/b.1355375/k.FA13/UMNS_News.htm)

UMNS on Facebook:

(<http://www.kintera.org/TR.asp?a=iflTKWnrGaIKL3K&s=chKUK5NBKbLQI5OKKsG&m=edIKIWP rHgIWF>)

UMNS on Twitter:

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

United Methodist Reporter Online: www.umportal.org

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

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

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

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

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

UM Global Health Initiative:

(http://www.umc.org/site/c.lwL4KnN1LtH/b.4407745/k.89CF/Global_Health.htm)

Church Demographics

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

Depression Seminar in Your Church — FREE

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

Conference Resource Center

New resources highlighted at the Conference Resource Center this week are described below. There are always new resources; check them out! For these and more resources, contact Carol Roszell at 817-877-5222 or 800-460-8622. Featured this week are books, study guides and A/Vs on mental health.

The Disciple Experiment. A complete curriculum for helping students deepen their faith. What does it mean to be a disciple of Jesus? What would happen if your junior and senior high students asked themselves this every day for a month? Arm them with practical ways to act on their answer. Includes leader's guide and faith in action journal. 6 sessions.

Abingdon Press Popular Offerings

<http://www.abingdonpress.com/forms/home.aspx>

Change the World: A Study for Leadership Teams

by Mike Slaughter | 978-1-4267-1012-4 | Retail: \$39

In this four-session video resource, Mike Slaughter guides leaders in visioning for themselves ways to transform their congregation of believers into a movement of disciples living out Jesus' mission in the world. Use this program for a weekend intensive leadership retreat or a four-week study for pastors, staff, lay committee members, and other key congregational decision-makers. Together you can lead your congregation to focus its time, its energy, and its budget to work for real change in a hurting world. The DVD comes with a Leader Guide. A participant guide isn't necessary but participants are encouraged to read the book *Change the World: Recovering the Message and Mission of Jesus*.

Why Jesus?

by William H. Willimon | 978-1-4267-0028-6 | Retail: \$13

No figure in history has received more attention, and been less understood, than Jesus of Nazareth. Much of what has been written recently portrays Jesus as a vaguely kind and friendly person whose message sometimes pleases but never challenges believers. People might even be tempted to ask "Why all the fuss? What here is worth devoting my life to?" Very little about that Jesus is worth it, says Will Willimon. Yet there is another Jesus, the mysterious preacher from Nazareth who continues to invite men and women to claim the true meaning of their lives by giving their lives away in service to God and others. This Jesus continues to fascinate and compel us, in spite of all the attempts to domesticate his message and put distance between us and the call to follow. In his radical teachings, his self-sacrificial death, and his liberating life beyond death, this Jesus teaches and shows us the true meaning and purpose of our own lives.

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.

Portable Cribs

FUMC Weatherford has four portable (HARD brand), rolling cribs to donate. They are 36" X 24" metal, multi-colored cribs. If you are interested, please contact Chandra Baker, director of Children's Ministries, at 817-599-4231 or Chandra@fumcweatherford.org.

Part-time Choir Director

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

Manager, Communications Training

UM Communications (Nashville) seeks qualified applicants for a training position that requires:

- Experience with face-to-face training and online learning, instructional design and technical writing.
- Knowledge of Windows systems (Professional), HTML, FrontPage or Dreamweaver.
- Bachelor's degree in communications or a related field. Must have trainer certification.
- Masters degree in a related field is preferred.
- Ability to oversee the design and implementation of an agency strategy for providing training resources and assistance to local churches, districts and annual conferences in areas of Web and Internet technology, Welcoming and Rethink Church, Connectional Giving and other areas as appropriate.

Closing date for applications is Oct. 18. Any interested applicants should apply to the Human Resources Office, P. O. Box 320, Nashville, TN 37203, 615-742-5137 or fax resumes to 615-742-5428.

Preschool Director

First UMC of Midlothian seeks director for licensed M/W/F program. Solid program, friendly work environment, good facilities. Prefer 9 college credit hours in Child Development and 6 college credit hours in Business Management with at least 2 years of experience working directly with children in a licensed child-care center, public or private accredited school. For information or to send resume and copy of college transcripts, contact FUMC Children's Minister, Keelee Allen, at keelee@fumc-midlothian.org or call 972-775-3993.

Director of Music Ministries

Saginaw UMC, a growing, dynamic, disciple-making church committed to evangelize, nurture and equip the church body for discipleship and service, seeks a part-time director of music ministries. This position reports directly to the senior pastor. For more requirements, contact Mel Bishara at 817-232-0390 or send resume to Saginaw UMC, 209 S. Bluebonnet, Saginaw 76179 or melbishara@saginawumc.org.

Female Youth Ministry Intern

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

5th St. Fort Worth 76102.

Youth Ministry Worship Leader

First UMC of Fort Worth seeks to hire a part time worship leader for its Youth Ministry. Responsibilities include leading youth worship on Sunday mornings with 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 bfrenzel@myfumc.org or to Brandon Frenzel, First UMC Fort Worth, 800 W. 5th St. Fort Worth 76102.

Student Ministries Director

Community of Hope UMC in Mansfield, an energetic, casual, growing church, seeks a part-time (average 20 hrs/wk) student ministries director. This key member of the church ministry leadership team will be responsible for directing and leading high school and middle school ministry by developing personal and spiritual growth opportunities for rapidly growing youth group. A strong candidate must be willing to build relationships with youth, volunteers and parents; will be active in the church; have an undergraduate degree; be able to utilize a variety of communication skills; and at least 2-3 years' experience in planning and leading student mission trips. Organizational skills are a plus, which include the ability to plan events for a long-range calendar and managing an annual budget. A successful candidate will have a positive history in working with a church staff. If you meet the above criteria, and if serving God in student ministry is your passion, please send your resume along with references to youthsearch@communityofhope.com.

Seeking a Ministry Staff Position

Phillip Harris, currently located in Houston, seeks a part-time or full-time position at a local UMC in the areas of youth, children, young adults or church administration. He is currently a member of Spring Woods UMC in Houston and has several years of ministry experience. In addition, he is currently in the candidacy process to become a licensed local pastor in the UMC. He can be contacted at paharris29@yahoo.com or at 832-758-9533.

P-T Children's Director

Silver Creek UMC has an immediate opening for a part-time children's director. Silver Creek is located in northeast Parker County, not far from Fort Worth or Weatherford. For more information, contact Vaughn Baker at 817-613-7659.

Organist

First UMC Itasca seeks someone to play their 1904 Hilgreen-Lane pipe organ. It is complete and original and has been refurbished to a "reasonable" state of operation. Please contact Tom Wood at 254-462-4364.

Seeking Pianist Position

Janice Whorley seeks a church to serve as pianist. She previously served as pianist and youth choir director at First UMC Bedford and pianist at Fellowship Methodist in Trophy Club. Most recently, she lived in Amarillo after inheriting the family home and served as pianist and choral director at Temple Baptist Church there and as accompanist and assistant choral director of West Amarillo Chorale. She has a bachelor of music degree with choral emphasis and is a Texas certified teacher. Current employment: Fort Worth ISD as orchestra director of Arlington Heights High School and Monnig Middle School. Accomplishments: excellent sight reader; plays by chord chart; plays by ear; enjoys praise and worship music as well as traditional; available to help choral director with sectionals and/or youth choir. Available to serve immediately anywhere in the area from Fort Worth to Denton and Jacksboro. Contact: jankath@yahoo.com or 469-323-8699 after 1:30 pm weekdays or all day Saturday. Resume and references available at request.

Sales Associate

The Fort Worth Cokesbury bookstore has an opening for a sales associate — 15 hours/week. Monday-Friday from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. or 12 noon to 5 p.m.; 2 to 3 Saturdays a month from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Position is 5 hours a day so all days will not be worked during the week. Description: work on sales floor and phone helping customers, shelving books job requires prolonged standing, walking, occasional lifting, operating the cash register and special orders.

Youth Minister

Wellspring UMC, located just 25 minutes south of Temple and 30 minutes north of Austin, seeks a part-time youth minister. Applicants should be able to work with an established youth program and continue to build it. The position is part-time working with 10-20 youth for Sunday morning Sunday school and Sunday evening MYF. Mission trips and other activities are also a requirement. This position will also assist in leading the Sunday Morning Contemporary Worship Service and prepare youth for worship leadership. Spiritual maturity and a willingness to grow is a must. If you are interested, please submit your resume to admin@wellumc.org. The church is located at 6200 Williams Drive, Georgetown, TX 78628.

P-T Organist/Music Associate

University UMC in Fort Worth seeks a part-time organist/music associate to begin Oct. 1. Primary responsibilities will include playing for one weekly Sunday morning worship service and for Wednesday evening rehearsals, and for choral accompaniment that requires use of the organ, and/or piano. Additional services during the year will include holy day services and accompanying the choirs for special events (funerals and weddings at an additional pay). The church has a 2 manual 27-rank Dan Garland pipe organ (installed in 1998) with 1564 pipes and 32-level memory system. The traditional worship format utilizes multiple styles of music and creative instrumentation, including orchestra for special occasions and services. The successful candidate will need to be a strong and creative congregational hymn accompanist. Salary is negotiable based upon experience. Send current resume with cover letter to Darin W. Hoppe, director of traditional music/worship arts, at dhoppe@universityumc.net or Darin W. Hoppe, University UMC, 2416 W. Berry St., Fort Worth 76110.

Youth Director

China Spring UMC seeks a youth director. Anyone who would be interested in more information, please call 254-836-1107.

Volunteers Needed

Tarrant County Restorative Justice Center is in need of volunteers for occasional office support, sort and organize clothes and day-to-day operations. Also needed is clerical support for the upcoming L. Clifford Davis Program (graphic designs, prepare flyers, mail outs, draft letters for signature, etc.). If available, please contact Penny Yaites at 817-719-5978 or at 817-616-3100. Adults and youth opportunities available. Some items can be completed at your home.

Director of Student Ministries

University UMC, Fort Worth, seeks a half-time director of student ministries. Responsibilities include providing for the spiritual formation of students in 6-12 grades, including mid-week and Sunday activities, an annual mission trip, and the coordination of a midweek outreach ministry to Paschal High School. Applicants should be passionate about sharing the Gospel with students and have strong organizational skills. Experience in student ministry preferred. Resumes should be submitted to: jhamilton@universityumc.net.

Multiple Needs at Tolar UMC

- Tolar UMC is approaching a renovation and prayerfully searches for: a used, lightweight steeple; candle lighters and/or rack; shelving boards.
- Also, used Sunday school DVD Bible study materials for adults or teens; used copies of Max Lucado's FEARLESS or FACING YOUR GIANTS; used Bibles (NRSV); used children's Christmas musicals, gospel music for choirs, paraments. Call 254-835-4005 and leave a message for Sunday a.m. or email shopjay3@pwhome.com, Helen Jones, 817-594-7940.

- Youth leader for grades 7-12. Tolar UMC is located between Granbury and Stephenville on Hwy 377. No experience necessary. Will train and send to train. Must be over 18, pass background check, enthusiastic, willing to lead and learn. Needed Sunday evening and special events. Sunday a.m. optional. For details, call 817-594-7940, Helen Jones, pastor.
- Guitar player for weekday rehearsal with choir and once a month Sunday a.m. Call 817-594-7940, Helen Jones, pastor.

Volunteers for Multiple Tasks

Diamond Hill UMC in North Fort Worth needs volunteers for summer and fall activities:

- Soccer Camp – Friday, July 30, Alliance UMC. Volunteers needed to teach children soccer, help with Bible Studies and music.

* After school tutoring program – Beginning Mid August. Volunteers are needed to help tutor students and assist with their after school programming.

- Bilingual (Spanish speaking) individuals needed!

If you have the gift of working with children and are able to help, please call Laura or Osvaldo Benitez at 210-378-9283.

Portable Kneeling Benches

Good News UMC in Cedar Park is in need of two or three portable kneeling benches for prayer and communion. Please contact Bob Rainey at bobrainey@austin.rr.com or 254-479-0241. We will pick up.

Mini-bus

Lorena UMC wants to buy a good, late-model mini-bus, 14+1 passenger or larger, low mileage. The church will pay cash; the need is now (or soon). Lorena UMC, 254-857-4283, 817-773-6959, lorenaumc@lorenaumc.org.

Organist

First UMC, Belton seeks an organist. If interested, contact Carol Scherer at 254-939-5703 or musicdir@vvm.com.

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.