



Central E-Link

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

April 7, 2010

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

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

News Briefs — The Conference

What "A Great Day of Service"!

A total of 592 youth and their adult leaders from 44 churches across the conference will be committing this Saturday to working in their communities as part of "A Great Day of Service" in the greater Fort Worth, Waco and Temple areas. Share your appreciation with the following youth participants in this great endeavor and where they will be working:

Arlington Life Shelter, Arlington — Arlington Heights UMC
Arlington Urban Ministries — Aldeo UMC
Bethlehem Center of UCC, Fort Worth — FUMC Bedford
BMAA Harvest House, Burleson — FUMC Glen Rose
Community Store House, Roanoke — Arborlawn UMC & Western Hills UMC, Fort Worth
Crowley House of Hope — Edge Park UMC, Fort Worth
Diamond Hill UMC, Fort Worth — St. Andrew UMC, Arlington
Eastside Ministries, Inc., Fort Worth — Alliance UMC
El Buen Samaritano UMC, Fort Worth — Ridglea UMC & Light of the World UMC
Grace MC & Jenna's Mission Shop, Fort Worth — Morningside UMC, Fort Worth
Metro Board & TACC Family Pathfinders, Fort Worth — Crowley UMC
NICA, Fort Worth — St. Barnabas UMC adult group
Old Methodist Church Site, Crowley Cemetery — Kennedale UMC
Opening Doors for Women in Need, Fort Worth — FUMC Waxahachie
Safe Haven of Tarrant County — St. Barnabas UMC youth group
Shalom Zone-Search, Fort Worth — Texas Wesleyan University LULAC Council #4906
Wesley Day Center of UCC, Fort Worth — Burleson UMC
Iglesias Bautista Dio Te Ama (God Loves You Baptist Church) — Cousts Memorial UMC
Mission Hope, Fort Worth — Epworth UMC
Asbury UMC-Family Pathfinders, Fort Worth — St. Paul UMC, Hurst & Asbury UMC
Laura Edwards Early Childcare Center, Waco — Cogdell UMC & Coolidge UMC
Wesley Foundation at Baylor University — Bracks UMC & King Memorial UMC
Talitha Koum, Waco — Wesley UMC, Waco
Crawford family vegetable garden — Crawford UMC
Red Door Food Pantry — Mt. Zion UMC, Waco
Caritas Food Pantry — Wortham UMC
Lacy Lakeview UMC parsonage painting — Moody UMC

Mosheim UMC ramp construction — China Spring UMC
Just As I Am Shelter — Valley Mills UMC
169 workers comprise the 11 work teams from 9 churches that will be painting houses in the Temple District area

What Is Your Church Doing for World Malaria Day (April 25)?

The UMC will mark World Malaria Day April 25 with a call to local churches to be in prayer and action for ending this fully preventable disease that kills a child every 30 second in sub-Saharan Africa. All our churches are encouraged to participate in the Imagine No Malaria 2010 Annual Conference offering and many will want to participate in the sleep out event April 24, in which individuals sleep out overnight under imitation or makeshift bed nets.

With Imagine No Malaria — the next step after the incredible success of Nothing But Nets — the UMC joins the United Nations Foundation and our global malaria community partners, in raising \$75 million to eliminate death and suffering from malaria in Africa by 2015. The UMC is encouraging our churches to participate in this special initiative and in the April 24-25 events as part of a unified action for World Malaria Day. Directions and ideas for local church and youth groups are available online at www.ImagineNoMalaria.com. Members of St. Stephen UMC in Arlington will participate in service projects April 24 and canvas their neighborhood on April 25 with information on how to eliminate mosquitoes right here in our own communities. What is your church or youth group planning to do? If you would like to share your activities with others, please send a description to Carolyn Stephens at Carolyn@ctcumc.org and register your activity with the UMC at <http://rethinkchurch.org/changetheworld>. For Imagine No Malaria information and downloadable resources, please visit http://www.umc.org/site/c.lwL4KnN1LTH/b.5554239/k.31EB/Imagine_No_Malaria_a_ministry_to_eliminate_malaria_in_Africa_by_2015.htm. Check out what others are doing on INM's Facebook page at <http://www.facebook.com/umcImagineNoMalaria>.

How Do We Prevent/Respond to Bullying?

A message from Joy Roberson, associate director for student ministries: A recent episode of bullying hit home in our conference. A 13-year-old student committed suicide after being victimized by his peers. As we all deal with the ugly aspect of high school bullying, I wanted to encourage you to talk with your student groups about bullying, respecting others, loving ourselves, and how to handle conflict. Some resources we suggest are:

- *What Do I Do When Teenagers Encounter Bullying and Violence* <http://www.amazon.com/What-Teenagers-Encounter-Bullying-Violence/dp/0310291941> (available on loan from Joy)
- *Bully Free Program* <http://www.bullyfree.com/free-resources/> (free tips for parents and students)
- *Conflict* http://www.bluefishtv.com/Store/Youth_Ministry/2917/Conflict_featuring_Doug_Fields_and_Bluetree/xcid=1000 (a 4-week video-driven series by Bluefish TV)
- *Stop Bullying* <http://www.paracletepress.com/stop-bullying-dvd.html> or *Bullying: What Adults Need to Know* (available on VHS in our Conference Resource Center or on DVD through the above link)
- *Guide for Youth Leaders* - on Stop Bullying Now website <http://www.stopbullyingnow.hrsa.gov/kids/youth-leaders-corner.aspx>
- *School Dazed* <http://www.cokesbury.com/forms/ProductDetail.aspx?pid=441575> (Curriculum on school issues/self-esteem)

Also, check out our referral resources page at <http://www.ctcumc.org/page.asp?pkvalue=1322> for more information.

Automatic Drafts for Church Growth SHARES

Your monthly commitment to Church Growth SHARES can now be made by automatic draft. Complete the form at <http://www.ctccgd.com/> (click on Shares Program) and put away the

checks, stamps, and envelopes. Your agreed upon participation in starting new churches will be deducted from your checking or savings account on the 5th of each month. For more information, contact Vicki Eldredge in Church Growth & Development at 817-877-5222, 800-460-8622 or vicki@ctcumc.org.

GBGM Missionary Speaking Schedule in CTC — April 20-May 13

Dr. Christine Hena, GBGM missionary to Kazakhstan, will be itinerating in the Central Texas Conference and sharing her experiences as a physician in this remote area. Please feel free to join any of these scheduled visits:

| | | |
|------|---------------------|---------------------------------|
| 4/20 | 10 a.m. | Arborlawn UMC, Fort Worth |
| 4/21 | 6:30 p.m. | Newcastle UMC |
| 4/22 | 6:30 p.m. | King Memorial UMC, Whitney |
| 4/24 | 2 p.m. | Tenth Street UMC, Taylor |
| 4/25 | 8:30, 9:45, 11 a.m. | Acton UMC, Granbury |
| 5/3 | 6 p.m. | FUMC Olney |
| 5/5 | 6 p.m. | FUMC Crawford |
| 5/8 | 12 noon | FUMC Alvarado |
| 5/9 | 11 a.m. | FUMC Stephenville |
| | 7 p.m. | FUMC Mansfield |
| 5/10 | 7 p.m. | Ferris UMC |
| 5/11 | 10:15 a.m. | Good Shepherd UMC, Arlington |
| | 3 p.m. | FUMC McGregor |
| | 6 p.m. | Woodway UMC, Waco |
| 5/12 | 5:30 p.m. | FUMC Azle |
| 5/13 | 7 p.m. | St. John the Apostle, Arlington |

For more information, please contact Dawne McAlpin at 817-326-4242.

2010 Annual Conference Hotel Info

Hotel information for the 2010 Annual Conference is posted on the website at www.ctcumc.org. The deadline to reserve a room at the special rate is May 17. Click on the 2010 Annual Conference link on the right side of the page to view the brochure, as well as other information regarding Annual Conference.

Native American Ministries Sunday — April 18

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

Installation Service for Carol Woods — April 18

Carol Woods will be installed at the Brownwood District superintendent at 5 p.m. Sunday, April 18, at First UMC in Brownwood (2500 11th St., Brownwood). A welcome reception with refreshments will follow the installation service.

Retirement Celebration for Connally Dugger — April 24

The Mid-Cities Superintendency Committee extends an open invitation to a retirement celebration honoring the 47 years in ministry of Connally Dugger and his wife, Carlene, from 2 to 4 p.m. Saturday, April 24, at First UMC, Arlington (313 N. Center St., Arlington 76011). The program begins at 2 p.m. Cards and notes of remembrance are welcome.

Mother's Day/Wesleyan Homes Benevolent Fund — May 1

Mother's Day is the time when many congregations faithfully receive the special Wesleyan Homes' Benevolent Fund offering. "Today, we need your help to grow the number of congregations who tell this compelling story of the compassionate assistance to senior adults in financial need," states Dan Bonner, vice president for development at Wesleyan Homes. "Every nickel of every gift goes directly to supplement a senior's living at the new Georgetown campus, Wesleyan at Estrella with 124 apartments for independent living and coming in late 2010 60 apartments for assisted living, all eligible for need-based Benevolent Fund support. Pastors will be receiving special bulletin inserts and sermon illustrators for use in worship on Mother's Day unless they have indicated they will not be needed. For more information, contact Dan Bonner at dbonner@wesleyanhomes.org or 512-876-9145.

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

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

CTC Update on Haiti Relief

From Disaster Response Task Force Chair Laraine Waughtal: The situation in Haiti continues to be a difficult struggle. And the people of the UMC continue to respond to the need in Haiti. Because so much of the population is living outdoors due to the loss of homes and the continued fear of aftershocks, new problems are developing in the country. Many babies are now being born out on the streets at a great risk for the loss of life due to the unsanitary conditions. Birthing Kits, which cost about \$8 each to assemble, and Layette Kits, which cost about \$35 each, are desperately needed. The Birthing Kits provide safe and sanitary ways for women to delivery babies who do not immediate have access to medical care. The Layette Kits contain those items first needed for the newborn, such as receiving blanket, cloth diapers, newborn outfits and more. For church groups assembling these kits, please do not forget to include your \$1 for the shipping of each kit. Where possible, please have your church gather the individual dollars and write one check made out to the CTC and "Relief Supplies" on the memo line to be turned in at the collection site. The Conference Disaster Response Task force is asking for churches to collect Layette Kits and Birthing Kits (the content list is online at <http://sagerbrown.org/>). **Austin Avenue UMC in Waco has agreed to be our collection point to the south and all kits should be taken there by April 29. Bethel UMC in Weatherford will be the northern collection point. They request that you bring your kits to them Saturday, May 1, between 9 a.m. and noon.** The conference has a team going to Sager Brown and will be taking these kits directly to the depot. Let's have another great response from the CTC like we did with our Health Kits and let the people of Haiti know how much we care. If you have questions, contact Jennifer Bellamy at 817-877-5222 or Laraine Waughtal at 940-564-6494. Please pack your kits in boxes and mark on the outside of the box the count for each type of kit.

In The Large Church — April 12-15

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

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

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

UMVIM Team Leader Training — April 24

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

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

Faithfully Fit Forever Leader Training — April 24

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

Black Church Convocation — April 30-May 1

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

Who Done It Benefits TCRJC — May 15

The Tarrant County Restorative Justice Center (TCRJC) will host a who-done-it play titled "Who Murdered the Ministry?" by Cathy Harmon. The performances will occur on May 15 at 12 noon and again at 7 p.m. at the Life Today International Studio (located at 1801 W. Euless Blvd. Euless 76040). A silent auction will occur proceeding each performance and the proceeds will benefit the "Home of Greater Joy," a justice ministry of TCRJC. For tickets or more information contact Penny Yaites at 817-719-5978. Tickets are \$10/\$12 at the door.

Red Bird Mission Trip — Oct. 3-9

The deadline is May 15 for this first-time mission trip to the Red Bird Mission Conference in Kentucky. Join the CTC adult team this fall to assist with construction needs and possibly education and community outreach. Not only will the projects provide a rewarding volunteer opportunity, participants will also enjoy a unique cultural experience and may begin developing a relationship between the congregation and this wonderful Missionary Conference. Participants will be asked to attend one planning meeting/team orientation from 3 to 5 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 29, at Acton UMC (3433 Fall Creek Hwy., Granbury 76049). Contact: Dawne McAlpin, mission team leader, at dawne@actonumc.org or 817-326-4252, 578-1701.

News Briefs — The Denomination

Native American Scholarship

Whisper N Thunder (<http://www.whispernthunder.org>) is an e-mag edited by Billie Fidlin, director of outreach ministries for the Desert Southwest Conference. The group he represents is offering a scholarship to a Native American student with an application deadline of May 1.

(http://www.whispernthunder.org/WnT_Winds_Scholarship.html). Student nominations must be submitted by a subscriber to *Whisper N Thunder*. If a Native American student is interested in applying for the scholarship and the subscription (\$25) is a problem, please contact David Ferguson (madsferg@sbcglobal.net) at River Oaks UMC, Fort Worth.

Pastor Brings New Life to Sedgwick, Ark., Church

Two years ago, Sedgwick UMC was close to death. Regular worship attendance had dwindled to six people, and the congregation had little hope for growth in this 100-resident farming community. District Superintendent Kurt Boggan informed the congregation that there was only one lay speaker available to serve the church and she had a history of substance abuse. The congregation reluctantly agreed to accept Marilyn Neal as their pastor. Today, attendance has tripled and church members are finding ways to serve the community. To read the full story, click on

<http://www.umc.org/site/apps/nlnet/content3.aspx?c=IwL4KnN1Lth&b=5259669&ct=8156529&tr=y&auid=6173048>.

Change the World Discount at Cokesbury

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

Sisterhood of the Travelin' Shoes — April 12-13

This is a South Central Jurisdiction event for women in ministry April 12-13 at St. Luke UMC, Oklahoma City. "Sisterhood of the Travelin' Shoes" will feature Bishop Judith Craig as keynote speaker. Workshops for skill building and networking will be included. Registration cost is \$50/\$25 for students. Register online by emailing revjeankc@aol.com.

CEF Conference — Oct. 22-25

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

Local Congregations & Ministry Groups

Mwangaza Children's Choir at Austin Avenue — April 7

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

Prayer Retreat at Campus Drive Rescheduled to April 10

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

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

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

First Mansfield Hosts Invisible Children tour — April 11

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

An Evening with Mitch Albom — April 15

Aledo UMC invites you to an evening with Mitch Albom, author of *Tuesdays With Morrie*. He will be talking about his new book, *Have A Little Faith*, on April 15. For more information, visit <http://www.ctxumc.org/weatherford/Forms%20and%20Resources/Mitch%20Albom%20Publicity.pdf>.

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

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

Caring for Creation Conference — April 16-18

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

Digital Matters Worship — April 17

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

Laura Edwards Basketball Tourney — April 17

The 5th Annual Laura Edwards Annual Basketball Tournament, named the C.O. Howard Basketball Tournament in honor of the former district superintendent of the Waco district Clifton

O. Howard, will be held April 17 at the Methodist Children's Home gym in Waco. The benefit begins at 8 a.m. and participating fees are \$150/team. For further information, call the center at 254-753-1312.

Latvia Sunday at Meadowbrook UMC — April 18

Meadowbrook UMC (3900 Meadowbrook Drive, Fort Worth) welcomes Gita Mednis, the district superintendent of the UMC in Latvia, as guest preacher on Sunday, April 18, at the 10:50 a.m. worship service. Kristine Vainovska, also from Latvia and assistant to the DS, will be the guest speaker in the Covenant Adult Class at 9:40 a.m. A potluck lunch in Fellowship Hall will follow morning worship. Vainovska will also be the guest speaker at 8 p.m. Tuesday at Awaken Worship. Come as early as 7:00 p.m. to visit and fellowship.

Texas Friends of Latvia — April 17

The charter meeting of the Texas Friends of Latvia will meet at Smithfield UMC (6701 Smithfield Rd., North Richland Hills) from 3 to 7 p.m. Saturday, April 17. Gita Mednis will update participants on the progress, prayers, and miracles she is witnessing in her work in Latvia. This is wonderful opportunity to learn more about the needs of the UM churches in Latvia, to visit with Gita and Kristine and to meet others in the area who have a heart for the work God is doing in Latvia. Contact Dana Nance (djnance@sbcglobal.net) or call the church office (817-534-1741) by April 10 if you plan to attend.

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

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

Beth Moore - So Long Insecurity - Simulcast April 24

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

First Azle Hosts Beth Moore Simulcast — Simulcast April 24

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

Annual Benefit to Missions — April 24

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

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

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

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

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

“Celebrating Life Through Worship Arts” Benefit Performance — May 15

Date/time: May 15 from 3:30 – 5 p.m. Location: St. Barnabas UMC Church in Arlington (5011 W. Pleasant Ridge, Arlington 76016) This is a benefit celebration of life through the worship arts, uplifting God’s grace and mercy through praise bands, praise dancers, instrumentalists, songsters and the dramatic acts. During this gathering a silent auction will take place, and there will be refreshments for the nourishment of body and soul. For more information, please contact Luther Henry at luther@sbumc.org or 817-483-1667 or Chauncey Nealy at aldersgate1954@sbcglobal.net or 817-274-0116.

Conference UMs Heading to Holy Land — June 8

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

Youth Mission Opportunity in Palmer — June 24-27

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

No Man Left Behind Dallas – October 21-23

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

Resources

Helpful Links for Church Leaders

Central Texas Conference: (www.ctcumc.org) features and other content changes daily

InfoServ: (<http://infoserv.umc.org>)

UM Reporter Interactive: (www.umportal.org)

United Methodist News Service:

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

UMNS on Facebook:

(<http://www.kintera.org/TR.asp?a=iflTKWnrGalKL3K&s=chKUK5NBKbLQI5OKKsG&m=edIKIWRHglWF>)

UMNS on Twitter:

(<http://www.kintera.org/TR.asp?a=oIL5LeMPLLeKYLpl&s=chKUK5NBKbLQI5OKKsG&m=edIKIWP rHgIWF>)

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

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

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

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

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

UM Global Health Initiative:

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

Depression Seminar in Your Church, Free

Mental Health Facts from the Depression Connection Team: Mental illnesses are medical conditions that disrupt a person's thinking, feeling, mood, ability to related to others and daily functioning. Just as diabetes is a disorder of the pancreas, mental illnesses are medical conditions that often result in a diminished capacity for coping with the ordinary demands of life. With no cost to your church, the Conference Committee on Mental Health Concerns and Depression Connection Team will provide a seminar for your church. To inquire, 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.

What Would You Do? Four videos illustrating how character is revealed in difficult choices. Bluefish TV. These open-ended video illustrations are designed to jump start discussions in your small or large group setting. 2 minutes each. Youth ministry resource. 2009

Church Demographics

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

Crime Victims Council Information at www.crimevictimsCouncil.org

The new Crime Victims Council website offers many resources. If you are a survivor who would like to share your story or pass along a word of encouragement to one of our survivors or post a picture and other information about a victim, please email encouragement@crimevictimsCouncil.org.

Needs, Resources, Opportunities

NOTE TO LISTERS: Please contact Carolyn Stephens at Carolyn@ctcumc.org to pull your listing when your opening has been filled.

Administrative Assistant

The Wesley Foundation at TCU has an opening for an administrative assistant, beginning immediately. The successful candidate should have current computer skills and knowledge of Quicken, Microsoft Office, Publisher, Outlook, and Access and be able to handle general office duties. The position requires 15 hours per week, with summer hours negotiable, salary of \$8,500 per year. Please contact Lindsay D. Churchman, director, at l.d.churchman@tcu.edu or 817 924-5639.

P-T Administrative Assistant

Lorena UMC is taking applications for a part-time administrative assistant. Responsibilities include financial, bulletins, newsletter, communications and maintenance of membership records. Must be proficient in Word, Quickbooks and able to learn church software Servant Keeper. 25 hrs/wk at \$9.75 per hour. Email lorenaumc@lorenaumc.org to submit a resume.

P-T Choir Director

University UMC in Fort Worth seeks a part-time (10-12 hr/wk) choir director. A talented Chancel Choir would be the main emphasis with a bell choir as well. Other opportunities also exist. If interested, please contact the church office (817-926-4626) or email Stephen Decker at 2theo2@gmail.com.

BOM Clerical/Secretarial Support

"The Board of Ordained Ministry is seeking a part-time person to provide clerical/secretarial support to the Board office, 10 to 15 hours per week. The position requires experience with Microsoft Office and Access database, or comparable databases, as well as two years of post-high school education and/or two years office experience. The Board's administrative office is located on the Texas Wesleyan University campus. Job description is attached above. Interested parties may contact Gala Trimble by e-mail at board@ctcbom.org.

P-T Director of Children's Ministries

Silver Creek UMC seeks a part-time director of children's ministries. Candidates should have a background in children's education and possess a deep passion for sharing the Gospel with children age 4 through 6th grade. Expectations include coordinating children's Sunday school, helping with the Children's Choir, and planning VBS along with other camps, retreats, and special days throughout the year. Position opens June 1. Applicants can send resumes to Kristie Coleman at kristiecoleman@gmail.com.

F-T Pre-School Director

First UMC of Burleson, a rapidly growing community near the DFW Metroplex, seeks a full-time Pre-School director. First UM Pre-School has been an outreach ministry to families of the church and the surrounding community for over 25 years. The Pre-School currently serves 139 students in a five-day week program. Sought is a visionary leader focused on growing our program, serving our children, and reaching out to new families. Candidates should have a bachelor's degree in Early Childhood Education or related field with at least 12 credit hours in child development and 6 credit hours in business management, Texas Childcare Administrator Certification, and License, and at least one year of experience as director of a licensed early childhood facility. Submit résumé to Mike Wright-Chapman, associate pastor for Nurture Ministries, to mike.wright-chapman@fumcburleson.org or to 590 NE McAlister, Burleson 76028. Please call 817-295-1166, ext. 230, with any questions or for more information.

F-T Web Manager

The Communications Ministry at Highland Park Presbyterian Church (Dallas) seeks a full-time web manager. HPPC is a church rich in tradition and has a legacy of local and international impact for the cause of Jesus Christ. We are looking for a new multi-faceted team member that has the vision and ability to develop and implement new technologies while continuing to value and support existing services. This person will be a champion for HPPC's desire to strategically leverage the website, email, and other emerging social media, along with existing channels, to effectively communicate internally and externally. Content is king here. You'll need to have the gifts to gather, write and produce clear words and graphics that are web-savvy, high quality, and tell a compelling story. Qualified candidates should email their application packet, which includes, a resume, ministry statement and testimony (why you want to work for a church), links to samples of your work and your "online homes" to Jon Zellers at jon.zellers@hppc.org. This is an urgent need that has recently been permitted to rehire. Only candidates that submit a complete application packet will be considered.

Future UM Clergy Seeks Position

Phillip Harris, who is currently in the candidacy process to become a licensed local pastor, seeks a full-time position with a local church. He has experience in children, youth, and young adult ministries, as well as planning, conducting, and assisting in worship services. In 2004, he was elected to serve the Utah District of the UMC as their district youth representative. Currently, Phillip and his family reside in San Antonio where they are active lay members of University UMC. Contact Phillip Harris at 210-322-8189 or 210-815-4410 or through e-mail at jennifer.phillip@yahoo.com.

Enclosed Cargo Trailer

Resurrection UMC Cleburne, new church start, is in need of a used enclosed cargo trailer. If you can help, call Pastor Victor Pena 254 485 3140.. or email pastorpena@att.net.

P-T Director of Youth Ministries

First UMC of Lampasas in the Texas Hill Country seeks an outgoing, dedicated Christian with a heart for youth to develop, plan and supervise a comprehensive junior high and senior high (6th-12th grades) ministry of youth for the church and community. This is a part-time position (25-30 hrs/wk) with compensation (\$24,000-\$29,000) depending on previous experience and education. Contact: Linda Nelson at 512-556-5513 or lampasasfumc@sbcglobal.net.

Church Pianist

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

Carillons

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

Part-Time Youth Director

Smithfield UMC seeks a part-time youth director to work with a great group of teens on Wednesday nights, Sundays and any other days as necessary. Experience preferred. Ability to lead praise and worship is a plus. Interested persons may send a resume to Lisa Neslony via email, pastorlisa@smithfieldumc.org or snail mail, 6701 Smithfield Road, North Richland Hills, 76182. Deadline for applications has been extended to April 15.

2 Children's Ministry Positions

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

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

2 Music Positions

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

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

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

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

Part-Time Communications Administrative Assistant

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

Director of Children's Ministry

First UMC of Waxahachie is accepting applications for the part-time position of Children's Ministry Coordinator. FUMC Waxahachie has many dynamic children's ministry programs that are already in place and the church is looking to expand that even more. If you have an active relationship with Christ, experience in working with children and families, and love to work with and recruit volunteers from church and community, please call 972.937.4400 or send your resume to fumcwax.sr.pastor@sbcglobal.net.

FUMC-WAX is a county-seat church in Ellis County (40 min from DT FTW) with a long heritage of faith and service to the community.

Director of Children's Ministry

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

Worship Leader

New Day UMC (www.ndumc.com), a new church start in Mansfield, seeks a part-time worship leader for its non-traditional worship gatherings. Applicants must be able to provide voice and instrumental leadership as well as work to gather and develop a praise team. Salary is negotiable. Send your resume to Sheila Fiorella at Sheila@newdayumc.com or to P.O. Box 2125, Mansfield 76063.

Director of Music Ministry

First UMC Cleburne — a growing suburban church family with a traditionally based music program and occasional contemporary music offerings — seeks candidate resumes for director of music ministry. The candidate must have the flexibility to consider, assess, and implement new and innovative methods and programs to enhance the musical ministry and worship of the church. This is a part-time position with the possibility (or future consideration) of becoming a full-

time ministry position. Responsibilities include: planning, organization, recruiting, execution, and evaluation of the music ministry program under the supervision of the senior pastor; supervising the organist and pianist; areas of Adult and Hand Bell Choirs; other essential functions upon request. Bachelor's degree in music and experience required. Resumes will be accepted through March 30. Salary negotiable. Email resumes to robert@fumccleburne.com.

Director of the Learning Tree Preschool

First UMC, Georgetown is accepting resumes until Feb. 26 for director of the Learning Tree Preschool. The preschool is a FUMC outreach operated Tuesday through Thursday during the school year. A bachelor's degree with 12 college credit hours in child development and 6 college credit hours in business management and at least one year of experience in a licensed child-care center are preferred. Interested persons may submit a letter of interest, resume, and the names, addresses, and phone numbers of three professional references to Dotty Hooker, director of Christian Education, FUMC, 410 E. University Avenue, Georgetown 78626 or dotty@fumcgt.org.

Adult Retreat Center Coordinator

Glen Lake Camp & Retreat Center seeks a ministry-minded individual interested in serving as retreat center coordinator for Still Water Lodge. Responsibilities include hospitality, marketing and reservations management. Experience in Christian camping, Christian education or adult ministry preferred, but not required. This full-time position requires on-site residence, included as part of the compensation. To apply, please mail resume with references to P.O. Box 928, Glen Rose 76043 or fax to 254-897-2423.

Choir Director

Wesley UMC in Waco seeks a spirit-filled, passionate director for the adult and children's choirs. Must read music, be able to teach and lead choir members in both traditional gospel and contemporary worship. Contact: Theora Davis at 254-752-1822.

Youth Director

Wesley UMC in Waco seeks a part-time youth director committed to spiritual formation and mission. The successful candidate will be available Sundays, Wednesday evenings, and some planning and meeting time, not totaling more than 20 hours per week. Wesley UMC is committed to making disciples for the transformation of the world, beginning with our children and youth. Please contact Evelyn Vonner at 254-752-1822.

Part-time Pianist

First UMC of Cross Plains seeks a part-time pianist. Some of the responsibilities include preparing and playing for chancel choir rehearsals, weekly worship services (including prelude, postlude and offertory), and special worship services and events, in addition to working with organist, and music director. Pianist must be available for Advent & Christmas holiday season as well as for Lent, Holy Week and Easter. Candidate must work well with others, and be able to play a variety of music styles. If interested, e-mail resume to fumccrossplains@gmail.com or mail to: FUMC, P.O. Box 160, Cross Plains 76443. For additional information, call the church office at 254-725-7377.

2010 Annual Conference Business / Awards / Recognitions

District Conferences

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

Fort Worth – 7-8 p.m. May 18 – Edge Park UMC
Temple – 7 p.m. May 18 – FUMC Temple
Brownwood – 6:30 p.m. May 24 – Comanche UMC
Mid-Cities – 7-8 p.m. May 17 – Richland Hills UMC
Waxahachie – 7 p.m. May 20 – First Waxahachie UMC

Waco – 6 p.m. May 20 -- Central UMC
Weatherford – 6:30 p.m. May 25 – First UMC, Weatherford

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

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.