



# Central E-Link

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

**October 20, 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](mailto:Carolyn@ctcumc.org) by **12 noon Tuesday** in order to be e-mailed on Wednesday. Articles should be brief and include active links to websites or contact persons for details. To add a colleague or church member to *E-Link's* weekly distribution, send their addresses to [susan@ctcumc.org](mailto:susan@ctcumc.org). Editor: Carolyn Stephens [Carolyn@ctcumc.org](mailto:Carolyn@ctcumc.org)

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

## News Briefs — The Conference

### **2 Big CTC Events This Weekend**

#### **Alignment Proposal Goes Live This Sunday**

At 3 p.m. this Sunday, Oct. 24, Bishop Mike Lowry and members of the Alignment Task Force will conduct a **live-streamed event** from the TV studio at Fort Worth First UMC that will be accessible on the conference website. The subject is *The Exodus Project: A Transformational Roadmap for a Church in Transition*, which is available on the conference website ([www.ctcumc.org](http://www.ctcumc.org)) in 3 places (main feature, News and Alignment Blog).

"If you have questions or comments you would like addressed during this live streaming here is your opportunity," states Alignment Task Force Chair Mike Ramsdell. "We have created a special email address for the Q&A for the day of the streaming as well as leading up to it." The task force will present the proposal and address any emailed questions and comments. "You may make comments and ask questions ahead of the Oct. 24 presentation as well as during the actual live presentation," states Ramsdell, adding that, "You will be able to access the event by computer or at one of the viewings set by your district." **Send questions and comments to [ctcalignment@gmail.com](mailto:ctcalignment@gmail.com).**

District alignment information meetings have already been held in the Brownwood, Mid-Cities, Waco, Waxahachie and Weatherford. There will be one held at 7 p.m. tonight (Oct. 20) at Fort Worth First UMC and at 7 p.m. Oct. 28 at Salado UMC (Temple District). Voting members of the Annual Conference are encouraged to study the proposal, visit with their congregations, attend any of the district alignment information meetings, watch the live streamed presentation this Sunday, and be prepared to vote at the called session Nov. 13 at Mansfield First UMC.

#### **Centennial Celebration Is Saturday**

The Central Texas Conference Centennial Celebration celebrates the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the conference with a huge event this Saturday, Oct. 23, at Will Rogers Memorial Center, Fort Worth. **NO TICKETS WILL BE SOLD AT THE DOOR ON CELEBRATION DAY, but you may still buy a ticket from Susan at the Conference office (464 Bailey Ave., Fort Worth 76107). There will be a "will call" desk at Will Rogers for those who ordered their tickets this week.**

#### **Schedule Saturday, Oct. 23**

##### **at Will Rogers Memorial Center, Fort Worth**

8:30 – 10:00 am	Entertainment program, gathering, table setups, stage groups, children's activities
10:00 am	Welcome and invocation

10:05 am	Music – singing
10:20 am	Mayor's presentation
	Greetings from former Bishops Russell, Wilson, and Chamness
	Recognition of other bishops and special guests
	Recognition of conference Institutions
	Pleasant Tackett – portrayed by Mark Winter
	Camp meeting hymns
	Certificate presentations
11:30 – 1:00 pm	Lunch, historical display tables, stage groups, etc.
1:00 pm	Music – singing
1:15	1840 -1866
	1867-1910
	1910-2010
	1939-1968
	4 Vignettes; song between each section representative of different era
	Skits – narration and naming of churches in groups
	Interactive – pictures of churches as named and pictures of actual hands-on outreach ministry and mission
	Music – traditional and contemporary
	Offering
2:10	Bishop Mike Lowry – casting vision for the future
2:40	Prayer and closing song

Free health screenings will be available all day by THR's Life Screening Mobile Unit. For more details about the Centennial Celebration, visit [www.ctcumc.org](http://www.ctcumc.org) and click on the Centennial logo.

#### **Habitat Workday Cancelled for Friday**

Unfortunately there was an insufficient number of volunteers for work this Friday on the Methodist House in Fort Worth. That workday — and that date only — has been cancelled for the Methodist House. According to Troy Chapman (Metropolitan Board of Missions), volunteers are still welcome to come to the site because there is plenty of work to do in the neighborhood around 3209 Royal Crest Drive.

#### **2010 Thanksliving Offering and Bible Study on Hunger**

Each year the CTC Task Force on Hunger designates recipients for the *Thanksliving* 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 Thanksliving 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](http://www.ctcumc.org) or <http://ctcumc.org/pages/detail/902>.

#### **Evangelism Training for Your Church**

From Brad Brittain: The Conference Evangelism Task Force is ready and willing to come to your church to motivate your people to share the good news of Jesus Christ. The training is not really a "program." We do not bring fancy handouts or come with a "cookie cutter" evangelism program. We realize that each church is different with different challenges and opportunities. A big part of our training involves taking a look at the ministries of each particular church and tying those to making invitations to families in your community. We believe that before we can make honest invitations for people to come to our churches, our churches must be involved in meaningful ministries. We ask the following question at each church: "Would you send your church newsletter to Jesus? Would Jesus approve of what your church is doing in building the kingdom of God? The training event lasts approximately 2 hours and is done in such a way that it is entertaining and fun for those involved. By the end of the session, the church will have a

general idea of where it is in regards to being an invitational church, as well as ways it can creatively engage people in the life of the church. This program is first and foremost about evangelism, but we have found that church transformation is a byproduct of the evangelism. Joel Robbins (pastor at Ovilla UMC) and Brad Brittain (pastor at Mexia First) enjoy conducting the events and would love to come to your church! We are committing our Thursday evenings to provide this training for local churches and/or clusters of churches in your area. To schedule a time, please contact Carolyn Stephens at [Carolyn@ctcumc.org](mailto:Carolyn@ctcumc.org).

### **UMNS Commentary by Sheila Fiorella**

Sheila Fiorella of New Day UMC shared her radical hospitality thoughts with UM News Service at <http://www.umc.org/site/apps/nlnet/content3.aspx?c=IwL4KnN1LtH&b=5259669&ct=8800323>.

The people who come through the doors of our church have expectations. They're making decisions as consumers at first. Whether they return rests on their entire experience with our community. Those people leave asking the same questions they ask of businesses throughout the week: "Was this worth my time? Do the people care about me? Am I valued here?"

### **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>.

### **Discipleship: Connecting People to the Body of Christ — Nov. 6**

Sponsors for this training event for pastors, leadership teams, laity, youth and seminarians are the Black Church Consultation and the CTC Urban Ministries Saturday, Nov. 6, at St. Andrews UMC (522 Missouri Ave., Fort Worth 76104). Registration begins at 7:30 a.m. with opening worship at 8:30 a.m. and the program at 8:45 a.m.-3:30 p.m. Kennedy Jones, senior pastor at Greater Community Missionary Baptist Church, is the plenary leader and workshops will focus on connecting Through a Clear Sense of Mission, Through Small Groups, and Through Ministry with Children and Youth. For more details, visit the conference website at [www.ctcumc.org](http://www.ctcumc.org) under "Ministries" and then "Urban Ministries" or contact Carol Gibson at 817-336-2117.

### **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. 23 • 254-939-6194 or [www.summersmill.com](http://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](http://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](http://www.ctcumc.org)) under Ministries/Health and Wellness. **Deadline to register is Oct. 31.**

#### **“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](http://www.ntcumc.org).

## **News Briefs — The Denomination**

<http://congressonevangelism.org/>

#### **Voice of faith crucial to young gays**

At age 23, the pain of believing that God didn't love him because he was gay was too much for “George.” He decided to commit suicide. But at the darkest time of his life, he felt overwhelmed by a loving divine presence and he clearly heard in his head the words “Don't do it.” Listening to that voice saved his life. Read the full story from UM News Service at <http://www.umc.org/site/apps/nlnet/content3.aspx?c=IwL4KnN1Lh&b=5259669&ct=8807077&tr=y&aid=7184640>. And, closer to home, at the Oct. 12 Fort Worth City Council meeting, Councilman Joel Burns made a very personal statement to the community and especially teens who are gay or just different. From his own near death experience, he urged teens to endure the abuse and bullying and that in time “it gets better.” His moving statement on YouTube has had about 1.7 million hits so far <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ax96cghOnY4>.

#### **YOU CAN PARTICIPATE: UMW, UMM Conduct Domestic Violence Survey**

As part of their joint initiative on domestic violence, United Methodist Women and United Methodist Men are conducting a domestic violence survey, which can be found on the UMW website at <http://new.gbgm-umc.org/umw/act/domestic-violence/>. The organizations also recommend that congregations obtain a copy of “What Churches Can Do” from the Faithtrust Institute at <http://www.faithtrustinstitute.org/store/01tA0000000M7rWIAS/?searchterm=What%20Churches%20can%20do>. It includes a DVD and study guide with instructions on preparing an event to raise awareness about domestic violence.

#### **SMU Promotes Alyce McKenzie & Bruce Marshall to Endowed Chairs**

A spokesperson for Southern Methodist University has announced that Dr. Alyce McKenzie, an outstanding scholar and teacher who is also an ordained minister in the UMC, will be promoted to an endowed faculty position in the coming academic year. McKenzie (<http://www.smu.edu/Perkins/FacultyAcademics/DirectoryList/McKenzie.aspx>), who is currently Professor of Homiletics in Perkins School of Theology at SMU, will be named to the *George W. and Nell Ayers LeVan Endowed Chair of Preaching and Worship* at Perkins. The appointment will become effective in June 2011, following the retirement of the current LeVan Chair, Professor Marjorie Procter-Smith (<http://www.smu.edu/Perkins/FacultyAcademics/DirectoryList/Procter-Smith.aspx>).

Dr. Bruce Marshall (<http://www.smu.edu/Perkins/FacultyAcademics/DirectoryList/Marshall.aspx>), an internationally known faculty member at the university will be promoted to an endowed faculty position in the coming year. He is currently Professor of Historical Theology in Perkins School of Theology at SMU, and will be appointed to the *Edward and Emma Lehman Chair in Christian Doctrine* at Perkins. The appointment will become effective in June 2011, following the retirement of the current Lehman Chair holder, Professor Charles M. Wood (<http://www.smu.edu/Perkins/FacultyAcademics/DirectoryList/Wood.aspx>).

### **2011 Interpreter Enrollment**

Your congregation is eligible to receive 10 complementary subscriptions for leaders (5 print, 5 digital) to *Interpreter* magazine for church leaders. To enroll online for 2011, visit [www.umcom.org/subscriptions](http://www.umcom.org/subscriptions). You will need your church customer number and password. If you have questions, please contact customer service at 888-346-3862. Please remember to order additional, discounted subscriptions for new and returning leaders at enrollment time.

### **Celebrate United Methodist Student Day**

**United Methodist Student Day**, one of the 6 church-wide Special Sundays of the denomination, furnishes scholarships and loans for students attending UM-related and other accredited colleges and universities. **United Methodist Student Day** is celebrated the last Sunday of November. More than 9,000 students applied for UM scholarships in 2009. However, due to the lack of funds, all students were not able to receive scholarships. 90% of Student Day collections go to GBHEM's scholarship programs, while 10% is for student loans. Each UM-related colleges get money from the offering for scholarships, and each participating annual conference gets 10% of Student Day receipts to award to their own merit scholars. **Two Central Texas Conference students received scholarships in 2010. Eligibility is restricted to only those congregations that participate in the Student Day Offering. In past years, some CTC students applying for scholarships were ineligible because their churches did not participate.**

### **New Rethink Church Website & Advent Resources**

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

### **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.

### **Sexual Ethics Summit — Jan. 26-29**

"Do No Harm 2011," a UM summit addressing prevention of and response to abuse, misconduct and harassment of a sexual nature, particularly by persons in ministerial roles, will be Jan. 26-29 at First UMC Houston. This sexual ethics event will provide opportunities for conference leaders to share best practices, discuss emerging issues, and network across the denomination. Workshops will provide understanding, skill building and grounding for participants to clarify their roles and to coordinate their efforts with others as the church addresses problems of sexual abuse and misconduct. Workshops are divided into five categories, each with several sessions to choose from: Prevention, Cyber Safety, Response to Sexual Misconduct, Legal Issues, and Sexuality and Social Justice. "Do No Harm" is for annual conference response teams, and others who coordinate ministries related to sexual ethics and boundaries in ministerial relationships. At least two persons from each annual conference are expected to attend. Conference leaders endeavoring to start or invigorate a Response Team or Safe Sanctuaries Team are especially encouraged to attend. The event can accommodate 250 registered attendees. For details and registration, visit [www.umsexualethics.org](http://www.umsexualethics.org).

## **Local Congregations & Ministry Groups**

### **Congratulations to Emanuel Chapel**

Members of Emanuel Chapel UMC had a hamburger fundraiser Sept. 25 and raised \$330 for the

Imagine No Malaria initiative that is gaining the support of UMs across the nation. This initiative, which follows and expands on the Nothing But Nets campaign, is saving lives of children from malaria through preventable measures like insecticide-treated bed nets, medical treatments, education and clean water sources. The UMC has a long-term goal of raising \$75 million to wipe out malaria in Africa. Every dollar counts! And Emanuel Chapel is helping us reach that goal. For more details and to learn what others are doing, visit [www.imagenomalaria.org](http://www.imagenomalaria.org).

#### **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.

#### **Taste of Chocolate Benefits United Community Centers — Nov. 4**

United Community Centers cordially invites you to a deliciously unique tasting of appetizers, chocolate delicacies, desserts, and drinks from local chocolatiers and restaurants at UCC's Wild About Chocolate, One Sweet Fundraiser on Thursday, Nov. 4. It is from 7 to 9 p.m. in the lobby of Chesapeake Energy Corporation (100 Energy Way, Fort Worth 76102). Join UCC, presenting sponsor Chesapeake Energy Corporation, entertainers Mondo Drummers, and special guests from the Fort Worth Zoo's Wild Wonders Outreach Program at this event. Tickets are \$50. To make reservations, please contact Susie Reyes at 817-927-5556, x115 or at [sreyes@unitedcommunitycenters.org](mailto:sreyes@unitedcommunitycenters.org).

#### **Organizing Pro Helps Simplify Your Holidays — Nov. 11**

Are you looking for a way to simplify the most stressful time of the year? Feeling like it's impossible to keep up with all the demands of this hectic season? First UMC Grapevine (422 Church St.) invites women to gather at The Well at 7 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 11. Guest speaker Marcia Ramsland, an organizing pro, will help "Simplify Your Holidays." She will cover how to prepare our hearts and homes for the holidays and turn seasonal stress into organizational success; easier ways to handle gift lists and decorating; finding time to get it all done; and how to enjoy your holidays from start to finish. Tickets are \$15 including a catered meal and program and are available online at [www.firstmethodistgrapevine.org](http://www.firstmethodistgrapevine.org) or in the church office.

#### **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](mailto:katherineh@fumcg.org).

#### **Career Transition Support Group at First Hurst**

NETworkers is a career transition support group at First UMC Hurst for those who are unemployed and actively looking for jobs. NETworkers meets in the church parlor every Monday for about 1 ½ hours beginning at 9 a.m. Knowing that unemployment is such a difficult situation, the church wants to do something to offer emotional support as well as practical tips for social networking, resume writing, etc. They often have guest speakers. Contact: Sandra Hill at 817-282-7384 ext. 17.

## Resources

### Helpful Links for Church Leaders

- **Central Texas Conference:** ([www.ctcumc.org](http://www.ctcumc.org)) features and other content changes daily
- **InfoServ:** (<http://infoserv.umc.org>)
- **UM Reporter Interactive:** ([www.umportal.org](http://www.umportal.org))
- **United Methodist News Service:**  
([http://www.umc.org/site/c.lwL4KnN1LtH/b.1355375/k.FA13/UMNS\\_News.htm](http://www.umc.org/site/c.lwL4KnN1LtH/b.1355375/k.FA13/UMNS_News.htm))

### **UMNS on Facebook:**

(<http://www.kintera.org/TR.asp?a=iflTKWNrGalKL3K&s=chKUK5NBKbLQI5OKKsG&m=edKIWP rHgIWF>)

### **UMNS on Twitter:**

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

**United Methodist Reporter Online:** [www.umportal.org](http://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](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](mailto: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](mailto:tony@depressionconnection.org).

### **Conference Resource Center**

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

***Youth Ministry Management Tools.*** This book has everything you need to successfully manage your ministry. It covers events, time management, risk management, budgeting and finances, office and personal organization, building a youth ministry team, and calendars and scheduling. Includes CD-ROM.

### **Crime Victims Council Information at [www.crimevictimsCouncil.org](http://www.crimevictimsCouncil.org)**

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

## Needs, Resources, Opportunities

**NOTE TO LISTERS:** Please contact Carolyn Stephens at [Carolyn@ctcumc.org](mailto:Carolyn@ctcumc.org) to pull your listing when your opening has been filled.

### **2 Conference Center Positions:**

**Benefits Administrator** — Administer for the day-to-day operations of the 3 major benefit programs: HealthFlex, Retirement and Flex-spending. Requirements include a servant's heart to help people with benefit issues; knowledge of the UMC; excellent computer skills in Microsoft Office; knowledge of UM Pension Plan design and Health Insurance Plan is a plus / or must have a strong willingness and aptitude to learn plan designs; excellent interpersonal skills; strong organizational skills; ability to work on concurrent projects; stay current with benefit regulations and trends. Mandatory attendance at national UMC benefits meetings. Submit resume by Nov. 15 to Harvey Ozmer at [harvey@ctcumc.org](mailto:harvey@ctcumc.org).

**Benefits Assistant** — Assist in the day-to-day operations of the 3 major benefit programs (HealthFlex, Retirement and Flex-spending) while serving as front desk greeter of the Conference Center. Requirements include superior communication skills; good math skills; customer service focused, self-starter, and detail oriented; work with minimal supervision and perform thorough follow-up; excellent computer skills in Microsoft Office; familiarity with databases including the ability to do accurate data entry, data search, and report generation; knowledge of the UMC. Submit resume by Nov. 15 to Harvey Ozmer at [harvey@ctcumc.org](mailto:harvey@ctcumc.org).

### **GBHEM Position: Director of Student Ministries**

The General Board of Higher Education & Ministry of the UMC seeks candidates to fill the position of Director of Student Ministries, Vocation & Enlistment, a position that has cross-divisional responsibilities within the Division of Higher Education and the Division of Ordained Ministry. The search team is actively seeking a pool of qualified candidates who would be representative of the church. GBHEM requests nominations and assistance in bringing this position to the attention of persons who might be interested in applying for the position. For a position profile, contact [hr@gbhem.org](mailto:hr@gbhem.org) or see [http://www.gbhem.org/site/c.lsKSL3POLvF/b.3879831/k.677C/Employment\\_Opportunities.htm](http://www.gbhem.org/site/c.lsKSL3POLvF/b.3879831/k.677C/Employment_Opportunities.htm). To apply, send a letter indicating how your experience, training, gifts and skills equip you for this work. Include a resume and the names of 3 persons familiar with your ministry and sent to [hr@gbhem.org](mailto:hr@gbhem.org) or GBHEM Human Resources, C/O Student Ministry Recruitment, P.O. Box 340007, Nashville, TN 37203-0007.

### **Youth Ministry**

Silver Creek UMC has an opening for a part-time staff position in youth ministry. Responsibilities include developing ministries for Junior and Senior High youth. Inquiries should be directed to Vaughn Baker (pastor) at 817-613-7659.

### **Donated Glass Communion Cups**

Killeen First UMC is in need of glass communion cups and is asking for donations from other Methodist churches throughout the CTC. The church will be moving from its 100-year-old location in downtown Killeen to their new facility in south Killeen next spring. Lay leaders at the church will give away the communion cups to church members who attend the last worship service at the current location, to be held in mid-December. The church is in possession of nearly 200 glass communion cups, but needs approximately 300 more to accommodate the number of expected worshippers. If you are interested in donating communion cups to FUMC Killeen, please contact Marian Little at 254-289-9860 or [deltadad@dishmail.net](mailto:deltadad@dishmail.net). You can also contact the church office at 254-634-6363.

### **Church Pianist Available**

Janice Whorley seeks a position as church pianist. She previously served as pianist and youth choir director at FUMC 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. Qualifications: Bachelor of Music degree with choral emphasis, Texas certified teacher presently employed by Fort Worth ISD as orchestra director of Arlington Heights High School and Monnig Middle School; excellent sight reader; play by chord chart and by ear; enjoy praise and worship music, as well as traditional; available to help your choral director with sectionals and/or youth choir. Contact: [jankath@yahoo.com](mailto:jankath@yahoo.com) or 469-323-8699 after 1:30 p.m weekdays or all day Saturday. Resume and references available on request.

### **2 Positions: Director of Children's Ministry & Nursery Worker**

First UMC of Grandview seeks applicants for 2 positions for their family-oriented congregation that has a vision of reaching and ministering beyond its walls as part of the Kingdom of God. The **director of children's ministry** position requires someone who loves children, has administrative skills, lives in the Grandview area, and is able to teach God's word to kids in an effective way. A **part-time nursery worker** position during worship requires a love of children and residence in the Grandview area. Please send resume for either position to [office@gvmethodist.org](mailto:office@gvmethodist.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](mailto:revlsm@aol.com) or mail to FUMC – Cisco, 405 W. 8th Street, Cisco 76437.

### **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](mailto: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](mailto:melbishara@saginawumc.org).

### **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](mailto: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](mailto:youthsearch@communityofhope.com).

### **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.

### **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](mailto:admin@wellumc.org). The church is located at 6200 Williams Drive, Georgetown, TX 78628.

### **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](mailto:jhamilton@universityumc.net).

*If you know someone in your church, district or even outside the Central Texas Conference who might appreciate receiving this weekly electronic newsletter — or to unsubscribe your own listing — please contact Susan Briles at [Susan@ctcumc.org](mailto:Susan@ctcumc.org).*