



Central E-Link

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

October 6, 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

The Exodus Project: A Transformational Roadmap for a Church in Transition is now available on the conference website at www.ctcumc.org in 3 places (main feature, News and Alignment Blog). Voting members of the Annual Conference are encouraged to study the proposal, visit with their congregations, attend any of the district alignment information meetings (see below), watch the live streamed presentation on Sunday, Oct. 24, and be prepared to vote at the called session Nov. 13 at Mansfield First UMC.

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 Coutts Memorial UMC, Weatherford

At 3 p.m. 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. “If you have questions or comments you would like addressed during the 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 ctalignment@gmail.com.**

CTC Missioners Bound for Haiti

Travel blessings are asked for 3 CTC members who are bound for Haiti today (Wednesday) on a mission trip in conjunction with the Southwest Texas Conference. Pastors Laraine Waughtal (Bluff Dale and Morgan Mill UMCs) and Lara Whitley (Joshua UMC) and lay member George Murphy will spend 9 days in travel and in mission work in Haiti, and will lead mission teams to Haiti from this conference next year. Look for progress reports on their trip on the conference

website at www.ctcumc.org on the right hand side. Laraine Waughtal is the Disaster Response coordinator for the conference and will post the articles on the conference website as often as Internet connections permit from Haiti. Any churches hoping to send future mission teams to Haiti may want to follow the writings of these future team leaders.

Clergy Appointment Changes

Robert Barnett — from unappointed to 1/4-time supply pastor at Coolidge UMC, effective Oct. 1.

Eric Scott Douglas — from unappointed to ¾ time local pastor at Bartlett UMC, effective Oct. 1

Larry Duggins — from unappointed to ¼-time part-time associate pastor/Center for Missional Wisdom at White's Chapel UMC, effective Oct. 1.

Victor Pena (full-time local pastor) — from Resurrection to assistant pastor Church Growth & Development under Par. 316.1, effective Oct. 1.

Jana Wear (elder in full connection) — from unchartered Light of the World to assistant pastor Church Growth & Development, effective Oct. 1.

Marilyn Zemba — from full-time local pastor at White's Chapel UMC to unappointed.

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 for Ordering Centennial Celebration Tickets

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

The Central Texas Conference Centennial Celebration celebrates the 100th anniversary of the conference with a hug event Saturday, Oct. 23, at Will Rogers Memorial Center, Fort Worth. Activities 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?

**Tentative Schedule Saturday, Oct. 23
at Will Rogers Memorial Center**

| | |
|-----------------|---|
| 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 |

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.**

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 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 Bureson 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_GMcNNaGTKH4EOhBJYqPdsxludCGiCBIDC8zU6PKbdSnwagK_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

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. 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.

Reverse Trick-or-Treating Individual/Group Deadline Is Oct. 8

Today begins the **one-week period for organizations** (congregations, schools, youth groups, etc) to sign up for Reverse Trick-or-Treating and order kits at www.reversetrickortreating.org.

Kits for organizations - \$24/box of 150 minis & cards (max. 2 boxes/organization)

Kits for individuals – FREE, include 15-20 Fair Trade chocolate minis & info. cards

Trick-or-Treating? Children (plus high school/college students/adults) on their regular trick-or-treating rounds through their neighborhoods, or at an equivalent community event, give chocolate back to adults at each house they visit on Halloween...Fair Trade chocolate attached to an informational card about the problems in the cocoa industry, (such as child slavery, environmental degradation, and poverty) and how Fair Trade provides a solution.

With your help, we will reach a quarter million households in the US and Canada with this important informational message!

To order trick-or-treating chocolate to distribute from your doorstep, including Global Exchange's fabulous Halloween Fair Trade Action Kit, visit one of these websites:

www.globalexchangestore.org

www.equalexchange.coop

www.sweetearthchocolates.com

stores.homestead.com

Whether or not you order a Reverse Trick-or-Treating kit, **please join the Raise the Bar Campaign** and circulate flyers on Halloween calling on Hershey's to stop using cocoa grown with child or forced labor and start using Fair Trade certified cocoa. Flyers available at:

www.globalexchange.org/campaigns **October is Fair Trade month!** Learn how you can participate at www.fairtrademonth.org.

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.**

2 Pennsylvania Seminaries Lose UM Status

Two Pennsylvania seminaries have been removed from a list of schools approved to train UM clergy, following a June ruling by a denominational sanctioning body. Evangelical Theological Seminary in Myerstown and Palmer Theological School in Wynnewood received letters from the University Senate – the sanctioning body that determines which schools meet the criteria for listing as institutions affiliated with the denomination – informing them of the decision. Michael W. Sigman, Evangelical's president, said the letter cited a "lack of ethnic inclusiveness of faculty and staff" and that the seminary did not have enough full-time UM professors on its faculty. Both schools are pursuing the matter and plan to appeal the decision. The Senate meets again in

January 2011.

“Just because these schools are off the list of institutions that meet United Methodist requirements doesn’t impugn their academic quality in the least,” said Gerald D. Lord, associate general secretary of the Division of Higher Education of the UM Board of Higher Education & Ministry. “These concerns are solely about the formation of UM clergy.” The UMC will ordain only elders and deacons from schools or seminaries that are listed as meeting the guidelines for training students in Wesleyan-based theology and UM polity. The decision does not take effect immediately. Students enrolled by June 30, 2011, will still be eligible for ordination as UM elders and deacons. Approximately 26% of Evangelical’s 175 students and about 16% of Palmer’s 325 students are UM. Bishop Peggy Johnson of the Eastern Pennsylvania (regional) Conference said, “For a lot of little churches, it was good to have a seminary nearby. It will certainly be an inconvenience and will color the availability of appointments for many of our churches. The UMC has more colleges, universities, theological schools and preparatory schools related to it than any other Protestant church. There are 13 UM schools of theology and these institutions receive Ministerial Education Fund allotments. The University Senate has approved about 40 other seminaries that met the guidelines for training students in Wesleyan-based theology and UM polity. (Source: UMNS)

New Downloadable Domestic Violence Resource

Breaking the Silence: A Resource to Equip United Methodists to Speak Up and Speak Out About Domestic Violence.

October is Domestic Violence Month. A new, downloadable resource, “Breaking the Silence,” employs the Wesleyan quadrilateral to equip local churches address systems that perpetuate domestic violence and encourage UMs to speak up and speak out about domestic violence. The 23-page study is for use in local congregations. It focuses on the need for communities of faith to address systems that perpetuate domestic violence: causing victims to remain silent and enabling perpetrators to continue. The new resource is available through the UM General Board of Church & Society (GBCS) website at <http://www.umc-gbcs.org/atf/cf/%7B689fea4c-8849-4c05-a89e-c9bc7fff64c%7D/BREAKINGSILENCE.PDF>.

This resource provides an opportunity for church members, either as individuals or in small groups, to study domestic violence through the lens of the Wesleyan quadrilateral of scripture, tradition, reason and experience. It uses Psalm 139 as its biblical text. Author of the resource is Meredith Hoxie, a theology student at Boston School of Theology. Hoxie worked as a social justice intern with GBCS this summer. “This resource is to help clergy and laity understand the complexities of these violent relationships,” Hoxie said, “to examine their theological understanding of this violence, to challenge the way leaders of The United Methodist Church teach and preach troubling texts of violence, and to know how to advocate for victims of such violence in their churches and in the world.”

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

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

CORRECTION TO TIMES

Basic Lay Speaker Training — Oct. 16-17 Oct 16: 9 a.m.-5 p.m. and Oct 17: 4-6 p.m. at 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 murtedvet@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=ifITKWNrGalKL3K&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

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.

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

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.

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.

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

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.

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.

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.