

Central E-Link

Weekly Newsletter of the Central Texas Conference

September 23, 2009

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. Use this information for announcements, in church newsletters and/or bulletins. The *E-Link* and the *Central Link* newspaper are posted on the conference website at www.ctcumc.org. Read them online or download and copy to share with others. 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

Shortcuts: [Top](#) [News](#) [Events](#) [Resources](#) [Calendar](#) [Needs](#)

For worldwide news of our denomination click here! www.umportal.org

News Briefs — The Conference

Alignment Task Force Gets Underway

In his Episcopal address at the 2009 Annual Conference June 8, Bishop Mike Lowry called for a restructuring of the Central Texas Conference “with an eye to less institutionalism and more mission-driven ministry around the [denomination’s] four focus areas.” They will also be mindful of the conference vision for growing faithful and fruitful local churches that are transforming the world, noting the primary function of the conference as energizing and equipping local churches. The task force meets for the first time tomorrow under the leadership of Mike Ramsdell, chair, and special consultant Gil Rendle, former consultant with The Alban Institute and author of *Leading Change in the Congregation* and *Holy Conversations: Strategic Planning as a Spiritual Practice for Congregations*. Other members of the task force are Louis Carr, Jr., Beverly Gilliam, Ken Diehm, Tom Harkrider, Dawne McAlpin, Priscilla Monson, Bryan Patrick, Todd Renner, Jim Scoggins, David Scott, Kim Simpson, Daniel So, Pat Stroman and Estee Valendy.

CTC / THR Relationship Study

A task force to study the relationship between the Central Texas Conference and Texas Health Resources has been formed and will have their first meeting tomorrow (Thursday). The study comes as the result of a motion at Annual Conference last June following a number of changes, including the name of hospitals formerly known as Harris Methodist and loss of United Methodist imaging, by the Texas Health Resources parent company. The task force will examine the relationship history, original agreement and current status and bring a report with any recommendations to the 2010 Annual Conference. Bishop Mike Lowry has named the follow people to the task force: Eric McKinney (chair), Mike McKee, Kay Hawkins, Jerry Secrest, Penny Yaites, John Schaub, Frank Briggs, Earl Wood, David Martinez, Carol Gibson, and ex officio members Connally Dugger and Georgia Adamson.

Status Report on Apportionments

From Harvey Ozmer, director of stewardship, finance & administration: At its meeting last week, the Council on Finance & Administration reviewed the monthly apportionment receipts. The reports indicated our receipts are 5 percentage points below last year’s receipts at this time. Although this is a concern, we anticipate that our conference churches will meet their apportionment obligations, as historically they have.

We recognize that these are trying times. We deeply appreciate all the churches that have already submitted their apportionments in full and those that have paid a significant percent. The ministry and administration obligations of the conference depend on consistent and regular receipts. Our conference has mailed to every church an apportionment statement along with a letter of encouragement from Bishop Lowry. We trust that you will respond positively to the ministries that change people's lives in the name of Christ by remitting your church's financial commitment for the support of these ministries. As the Apostle Paul said, "Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up."

Insurance Enrollment Period — Nov. 4-19

Nov. 4 – 19, 2009 is the 2010 HealthFlex and AFLAC Cafeteria Plan open enrollment period. **NO LATE ENROLLMENTS WILL BE ACCEPTED SO MARK YOUR CALENDARS TODAY!** The 2010 enrollment information is now available on the conference Web site at www.ctcumc.org. If you have any questions, please contact Shawn-Marie Riley, conference benefits administrator 817-877-5222, 800-460-8622 or shawn-marie@ctcumc.org.

***E-Link* Takes a Vacation Next Week**

Due to staff vacation and training schedules, *E-Link* will not be published next week but will resume on Oct. 7. Please send all items for publication in that issue to Carolyn@ctcumc.org.

Shame, Shame, Shame — Litany to End Hate — Central Texas Involvement

National Scene: UM Bishop Minerva Carcaño was part of an interfaith rally in front of the U.S. Capitol last week that offered prayers for an end to hate. The rally, organized by the Interfaith Immigration Coalition, was a response to a conservative group bringing anti-immigration TV and radio talk-show hosts to the nation's capital. To read more about efforts to end hate for immigrants, link to <http://www.umc-gbcs.org/site/apps/nlnet/content.aspx?c=frLJK2PKLqF&b=5471267&ct=7511321>.

Conference Involvement: Rev. Dean Reed, senior pastor of First UMC, Stephenville, is in Washington, D.C. this week at the invitation of the Center for American Progress. He will speak as a part of CAP's effort to highlight communities of faith that are acting on behalf of migrants in the push for Comprehensive Immigration Reform (CIR). He addresses the work of the Welcoming Immigrants Network (WIN), a group he was instrumental in developing, in the Oct. 3 issue of Central Link newspaper, and will follow up with a report on his work in our nation's capital the following issue.

Personal Involvement: If you believe we need a more humane immigration system for those who come to the U.S. seeking a better life, you have the opportunity to help build a rapid-response team of UMs who will advance the cause of Comprehensive Immigration Reform. Contact: Conference Coordinator Dean Reed at rdr17@me.com to join the team or to learn more.

Want to Know More?:

An Evening of Compassion — Sept. 27 at Polytechnic UMC, Fort Worth

Getting to Know the Migrants Among Us

Welcoming Immigrants Network (WIN), a faith-based network of Texans who reach out in love to immigrants. Contact: Dean Reed at rdr17@me.com.

Don't Miss These Fall Fundraisers — Sept. 26 & Oct. 3

Two church fall fundraisers were inadvertently left off the listing in last week's *Central Link* newspaper. Our apologies to both churches, who got their information in timely. They are:

New Day UMC will have a booth at the Mansfield Pecan Festival at Katherine Rose Memorial Park (303 N. Walnut Creek Dr., Mansfield 76063) with balloons and a drawing for a prize on Saturday, Sept. 26, from 8:30 a.m. – 7:00 p.m. 2010 calendars that are beautiful to look at as well as useful in planning and organizing schedules will be on sale to help support our outreach ministries. They make great gifts for friends, family, co-workers, and teachers. Donations will also be accepted. The Pecan Festival offers art, crafts, live music, food, and a children's area.

Ferris Heights UMC will hold their Annual Lord's Day Festival Oct. 3. There will be crafts,

Christmas items, silent and live auctions featuring hand-made quilts, items from local dealers, antiques and church member-donated items. Lunch will be turkey and all the trimmings.

Adult UMVIM Mission/Work Tour to Eastern Mexico Conference — Jan. 16-23

The conference UM Volunteers in Mission (UMVIM) will host a mission work tour to Mexico's Eastern Conference Jan. 16-23. They will visit and serve at several ministry sites along the Texas-New Mexico border and in Monterrey in order to learn about ways our congregations can engage in mission in these areas. This is an invitation to honor our covenant relationship with the Eastern Conference in Mexico. The deadline for registrations is Dec. 21. Contacts: Susan Luttrell at 817-473-6650 ext. 204, 817-781-5875 or susan@firstmethodistmansfield.org or Jennifer Bellamy at 817-877-5222 or Jennifer@ctcumc.org.

Sermon Contest: What Are You Preaching to Your Faith Community?

FaithTrust Institute is interested in your sermons addressing child abuse, rape, and domestic violence as part of their national sermon contest. To participate, e-mail sermons as a Microsoft Word attachment and as a video or audio file to training@faithtrustinstitute.org. Include your name, faith tradition, and contact information (phone number and mailing address). Sermons will be judged on the following criteria: clarity and accuracy of information about the issues; well-grounded presentation of theological context; use of sacred texts from your faith tradition; creativity in presenting the nuances of victimization and our faith traditions. The video or audio version of the top three sermons will be published on FaithTrust Institute's Web site in February 2010. The deadline for submissions is Nov. 31. www.faithtrustinstitute.org

Psychologist Dr. Bill Crawford Brings Programs on Grief, Stress, Life — Sept. 24, 25, 26

Dr. Bill Crawford will be in the Fort Worth area later this month bringing programs related to grieving, stress and dealing life's difficulties. For more details on events and how to participate, contact Sandra Lydick at sandralydick@crimevictimscouncil.org. For more information about Crawford and his programs, visit <http://www.billcphd.com/presentations.php>.

Sept. 24 — "Grieving the Shattered Dream" at First UMC Crowley

Sept. 25 — "Dealing with Stress Versus Stress Dealing with You" for Fort Worth Police Dept.

Sept. 26 — Training for Stephen Ministers & Nurture/Care Group Leaders at First UMC, Fort Worth

Keeping the Flame Alive — Sept. 26 at First UMC of Fort Worth

Training for Stephens Ministry. Contact: Sandra Lydick at 817-675-6367 or sandralydick@crimevictimscouncil.org.

September and October Donation-of-the-Month Requests

Refugee Services of Texas invites you to contribute in September and October in meaningful ways.

September: blankets and comforters for incoming refugee clients

October: coats and jackets in all sizes

RST office (5009 Brentwood Stair, Fort Worth 76112), call the RST at 817-457-8110.

GBGM Women's Division Head to Visit CTC — Oct. 3

Harriett Olson, who head the Women's Division of the General Board of Global Ministries, will in Central Texas early next month to visit with United Community Center (Oct. 1), a mission institution of the Women's Division, and with the CTC United Methodist Women for their Annual Autumn Gathering Saturday, Oct. 3, at Austin Avenue UMC, Waco. Also on the agenda at the UMW gathering will be missionary Jerri Savuto. For more information on the UMW gathering, contact UMW President Cynthia Rives at cynrives@yahoo.com.

Missionary Carol Partiridge Itinerating in the CTC — Oct. 9-14

UM Missionary Carol Partiridge, currently serving in Macedonia, will be itinerating in the Conference Oct. 9 – 14. To schedule at your church, contact Dawne McAlpin, CTC Secretary of Global Ministries, at dawne@actonumc.org.

New Bible Study for Singles to Begin in October

“Returning to the Garden and Our True Sacred Identity,” study on the spiritual writings of J. Philip Newell, Henri Nouwen and others is offered to **singles of all ages** at First UMC Fort Worth 6-7:30 p.m. Tuesdays from Oct. 13-Nov. 3. Contacts: Chuck Graff (817-339-5065 or cgraff@myfumc.org) or Ellen Bauman (817- 564-5595 or ellen_bauman@yahoo.com).

Singles Mission Trip to Dulac, La. — Feb. 11-15, 2010

Contact: Chuck Graff as 817-339-5065 or cgraff@myfumc.org and watch for additional details soon.

Marriage Preparation & Counseling Curriculum for Pastors — Oct. 8

Do you do pre-marital education? Would you like to find good curriculum? Do you know about the help you will get from the State of Texas? There is a pastor's education event to introduce curriculum, resources and the State of Texas Together in Texas program from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Oct. 8 at Central UMC, Waco. This is a free event sponsored by the CTC Nurture Council to encourage and educate pastors and anyone who does pre-marital education. There is no charge for this event, but please place this date on your calendar and plan to be there to learn ways to improve your ministry to couples wanting to get married. Richard Hunt will pay for lunch for all who want to stay until 2:30 (approximately \$5 per person) for certification for GLCM. For any further information contact Allen Grant at pastor@chinaspringumc.com. To RSVP for this event email Susan Briles at susan@ctcumc.org.

UMVIM Team Leader Training — Oct. 11

Training for team leaders will be held 1:30-4:30 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 11, at First UMC Mansfield. <http://www.ctcumc.org/page.asp?PKValue=903>

Safe Sanctuaries & Sexual Misconduct Prevention Training — Oct. 24

Training for those who work with children and youth Oct. 24 at First UMC Hillsboro. It is especially geared to teachers, sponsors, interns, van drivers, mission trip workers and anyone who has ever asked, “Why do we have to follow Safe Sanctuaries?” Contact: MaDora by Oct. 16 at 817-877-5222 or madora@ctcumc.org. Download the flyer at <http://www.ctcumc.org/page.asp?pkvalue=1137>.

Thanksgiving Offering 2009

http://ct.brickriver.com/files/oFiles_Library_XZXLCZ/Thanksgiving_2009_KZB8K4MR.pdf.

SAVE DATES: Youth Focus on “Engaging in Ministry with the Poor”

CTC youth have ministry outreach with the poor events scheduled for this fall:

- **Mission Waco Poverty Simulation Weekend** — Oct. 9-11 in Waco. FAQs at www.missionwaco.org/povsimhtml.html.
- **30 Hour Famine** — Nov. 6-7 at Glen Lake Camp raises awareness about hunger and poverty. Register at www.glenlake.org/30-hour-famine.

Upcoming CROP Hunger Walks in the Central Texas Conference Area

Mid-Cities CROP Walk (Bedford)—Oct. 11

Fort Worth CROP Walk—Oct. 18

Georgetown CROP Walk—Oct. 18

Waco CROP Walk—Oct. 18

Information: www.churchworldservice.org, www.fortworthcrop.org, www.tarrantareacc.org.

Dealing With Stress & Anxiety — Oct. 22

Good news! We can learn how to reduce stress and protect ourselves from anxiety. Dr. Jim Gause will lead a seminar on these issues from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 22, at First UMC of Mansfield. For more details, contact Debbie Black, care ministries coordinator, at 817-477-2287, ext. 162 or debbieb@firstmethodistmansfield.org.

3rd Annual Sweet Potato Round-Up — Oct. 24

The Gleaning Network of Texas' 3rd Annual Sweet Potato Round-Up will be held 8 a.m.-noon Oct. 24 in a field somewhere between Emory and Mineola. If you or your group would like to participate, contact Susie@gleantexas.org.

Five-Day Academy for Spiritual Formation — Nov. 1-6 at Lakeview Methodist Conference Center, Palestine

Contact: Denice Foose at 713-203-0783 or dsfoose@comcast.net.

Gift of Love Auction — Nov. 7

The Metropolitan Board of Mission annual Gift of Love Auction, which benefits a multitude of outreach ministries in the Metroplex, will be held from 5 to 8 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 7, at Meadowbrook UMC, 3900 Meadowbrook Drive, Fort Worth 76103. The silent auction begins at 5 p.m. and the live auction at 6 p.m. The Metro Board is accepting donations for the auction items. www.metroboard-umc.org.

Early Response Team Training — Nov. 7

Presented by the CTC Disaster Response Task Force 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Nov. 7 at First UMC Round Rock. <http://www.ctcumc.org/page.asp?PKValue=890>

Academy of Christian Education — Nov. 9-13 at Still Water Lodge, Glen Rose

www.ctcumc.org Contact: Karen Granderson, 817-877-5222, 800-460-8622, karen@ctcumc.org

Fall Leadership Summit — Nov. 14

Five Practices of Fruitful Congregations

Presented by Bishop Robert Schnase

Nov. 14 • 9:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. • First UMC, Mansfield

Church are urged to bring a team of people to this important summit. Click here for the brochure http://ct.brickriver.com/files/oFiles_Library_XZXLCZ/Fall_Summit_2009_7NQBFIGL.PDF.

Return to [Top](#)

News Briefs — The Denomination

Resources for World AIDS Day — Dec. 1

UM congregations are encouraged to continue the fight against HIV/AIDS around the world by creating awareness about this deadly disease. A new brochure and a poster supporting the UM Global AIDS Fund are now available. Use and share Working Toward an AIDS-Free World brochure or poster, and support global programs engaged in advocacy, education, prevention, health care and training in response to HIV/AIDS. **World AIDS Day is Dec. 1.** Join the fight against HIV/AIDS by using these resources on Sundays leading up to World AIDS Day. Order Working Toward an AIDS-Free World brochure (<http://www.cokesbury.com/forms/ProductDetail.aspx?pid=817364>) for the small cost of shipping, or download the poster (<http://new.gbqm-umc.org/umcor/media/wad/wadposter09.pdf>). Look out for more HIV/AIDS resources to come and give to the United Methodist Global AIDS Fund, UMCOR Advance #982345.

October Is Domestic Violence Month

October is when the world draws attention to domestic violence. Linda Bales Todd, director of the Louise & Hugh Moore Population Project, General Board of Church & Society, provides an interesting denominational perspective on the issue along with 10 steps congregations can take to address this pandemic. <http://www.umc-gbcs.org/site/apps/nlnet/content.aspx?c=frLJK2PKLqF&b=5471267&ct=7511315>

US: Bread for the World Sunday — Oct. 18

UM churches everywhere have an opportunity to renew their commitment to ending world hunger and poverty. Through Bread for World Sunday on Oct. 18, or any Sunday before Thanksgiving, churches can lift up their voices on behalf of the hungry through education, prayer, and music. Free resources include a scripture and sermon study on Mark 10:35-45 by Dr. John Buchanan, editor and publisher of *Christian Century*, as well as bulletin inserts, offering envelopes and a new sacred song composed by Marty Haugen. Special prayers for the day are also included. For more information and to download resources, click on <http://secure.gbgm-umc.org/donations/umcor/donate.cfm?id=3019089&code=982920>. Bread for the World is a Christian organization based in the US which seeks justice for the world's hungry people by lobbying US legislators and other decision makers. You can also alleviate world hunger with your gifts to World Hunger Poverty, UMCOR Advance #982920.

Wesley Pilgrimage in England — May 11-21, 2010

<http://www.gbod.org/wesleypilgrimage>

Educational Opportunities Beyond Central Texas

Clergywomen's Gathering — Living in Balance: Recapturing Our Creativity — Oct. 5-7

www.mountsequoyah.org.

Mediation Skills Training Institute for Church Leaders — Oct. 5-9

www.LMPeaceCenter.org.

Worship Planning Retreat with Marcia McFee — Oct. 11-14 at Lake Tahoe

<http://www.marciamcfee.com>

Advent Sermon Writing Retreat — Nov. 2-6 at Mount Sequoyah

www.mountsequoyah.org.

Just FOCUS: Sequoyah Singles 2009 — Nov. 6-8 at Mount Sequoyah

Singles outing in the hills of Fayetteville, Ark., to focus on God and focus on how God works in us and through us to bring the message of the Gospel to the world. www.mountsequoyah.org

Small Church Leadership Institute — Nov. 15-19

Four days of networking and learning from some of the best teachers and leaders from small church congregations. Dr. Jeff Patton, author of "If It Could Happen Here," and other authorities on small church transformation will be presenting. Registration is \$199 per person (\$189 before Oct. 31) and includes program materials and meals. On **Nov. 19-21 district superintendents** will be offered 48 hours with Dr. Gil Rendle in conversation about "The Small Attendance Church." Contact: www.mountsequoyah.org.

Return to [Top](#)

News Briefs — Local Congregations & Ministry Groups

Dallas Cowboys Alternate Parking

First UMC of Arlington invites you to park in their lot for Cowboy and other Cowboy stadium events. The church, which is less than a mile from the stadium, has contracted with Stadium Parking, a parking company that secures the lot and provides a free shuttle to the Walmart parking lot across the street from the stadium. **There is a fee.** Please visit www.arlingtonmethodist.org/stadiumparking for directions and more information.

Morningside Observes Women's Day — Sept. 27

The UMW unit at Morningside UMC will celebrate its annual Women's Day at 4 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 27. The program's theme is "Together at the Table." Contact: Helen Grape at helen_grape@yahoo.com.

Iron Men Golf Tournament at Grapevine — Oct. 4

Iron Men, the men's ministry of First UMC in Grapevine, invites all to their 6th Annual Iron Men Golf Tournament Sunday, Oct. 4, at Sky Creek Ranch in Keller. www.firsmethodistgrapevine.org

Bishop Lowry Preaches 30th Pope Preaching Series at First Breckenridge — Oct. 4-6

First UMC Breckenridge observes its 30th anniversary of the Pope Preaching Series, established in 1979 to honor Bishop and Mrs. Kenneth Pope who at one time served the Breckenridge church. Bishop Mike Lowry will be the preacher for the series that begins at 7 p.m. Sunday-Tuesday, Oct. 4-6. His focus will be on "We Would See Jesus." He will also speak at a women's luncheon on Monday and at the men's breakfast at 6:45 a.m. Tuesday. For more details on any of these events, contact the church office at 254-559-8208 or office@firstumcbreckenridge.org. www.firstumcbreckenridge.org.

Christian Theology Study at First Belton — Ongoing

Have you wanted to learn, discuss, or respectfully debate Christian theology with members of your own denomination as well as others? First UMC in Belton is providing that opportunity at noon Tuesdays. <http://gbgm-umc.org/fumcbeltex>

Divorce Recovery Workshop — Sept. 25 & 26 at Trinity UMC, Arlington

Contact: Cheryl Seese 817-253-2911, cherylseese@sbcglobal.net or Michael Anderson 817-313-9931, mpacpatx@yahoo.com

"Girls United! In Christ" for 3rd-6th Grade Girls — Next Session: Sept. 25-26 at Good Shepherd

www.churchofgoodshepherd.org

Creative Worship/Media Design Seminar — Sept. 25-26

Midnight Oil Productions is hosting a 2-day seminar, Sept. 25-26, at River of Life Church (<http://www.eriveroflife.org/>) in Eastland. Register at <http://www.midnightoilproductions.com/seminar/locations/eastland/>.

Taize Evening Prayers — Sept. 27

Trinity Arlington UMC invites all for a contemplative worship experience Sunday, Sept. 27, at 7 p.m. Trinity offers Evening Prayers in the Tradition of Taize two evenings each month. This 40-minute worship experience is centered in prayer — spoken, sung and silent. Contact: Dub Shepherd, minister of worship & fine arts, at 817-274-1345.

Piano Recital at Trinity Arlington — Sept. 27

2005 Van Cliburn semi-finalist Gabriela Martinez will present a solo recital at Trinity UMC Arlington at 2 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 27, in the sanctuary. Admission is free, but donations are welcome.

Temple District

Class: Local (Basic) Lay Speaking Class
Dates: Sept. 26 9 a.m.-5 p.m. and Sept. 27 2-5 p.m.
Place: St. Paul's UMC Georgetown
Contact: Arcynthia Louie at cynthlouie@aol.com

Lay Speaking Basic (Local) Course
When: Oct 17 (9-5) Oct 18 (2-5)
Where: Florence UMC
Bring: Study Bible, Discipline, UM Hymnal

Lay Speaking Advanced Course: Lay Speakers Lead Music in Worship
When Nov 14 (begins at 9 a.m.)
Where: Florence UMC

"Life in the Spirit" Seminar — Oct. 2-3 at Lighthouse Fellowship UMC

Presented by a team from Aldersgate Renewal Ministries, this seminar is designed to share information regarding the person and work of the Holy Spirit as participants are led into the fullness of Jesus Christ through its power. For seminar times, FAQ and registration visit www.lfwired.org or call 817-237-2758.

Mediation Skills Training — Oct. 5-9

Details and registration available at www.LMPeaceCenter.org.

Brite Divinity School's Center for Latino/a Church Studies at TCU, Fort Worth, Presents Dr. Francisco Garcia-Treto — Oct. 6

Being Together in One Place or Not: A Cuban-American Latino Reflects on Minority Biblical Criticism. Free and open to the public. Contact: 817-257-7575 or m.rodriquez2@tcu.edu.

Bluff Dale & Morgan Mill Sponsor Dave Ramsey Class - Financial Peace University

Contact Paul Porter pastorpeporter@sbcglobal.net or 817-579-0385.

Karen Armstrong Scheduled for First Fort Worth Goostree Lecture Series — Oct. 4

<http://www.fumcftw.org>

Marriage Retreat at Joshua UMC — Oct. 3-4

Contact Tonya Frantz at 817-558-9801 or tonya@joshuaumc.net.

The Second Hundred Years: Fall Revival Series at La Trinidad, Fort Worth— Oct. 23-25

Contact: Daniel F. Flores at trinidad_umc@yahoo.com or on Facebook.

Job Transition Support Group Continues to Meet at FUMC Fort Worth

Contact Marianne Wilson at 817-339-5071 or email her at MWilson@MyFUMC.org

Gifts of the Labyrinth — Oct. 23-25

Veriditas facilitator training. www.veriditas.org

Trinity, Arlington Seeks Ride Share to “Leaves of Gold” — Oct. 19-20

Contact: Brenda Beaver at 817-274-1345

Adult Mission Trip to Nicaragua — Oct. 3-11

Contact: Peggy Badlato at 817-443-0284 or pbadlato@att.net

Take the Journey at Smithfield UMC — Oct. 16-18

www.smithfieldumc.org, click on “Upcoming” and select “Retreat” from the dropdown menu. Contact: Susie Butcher at 817-501-9167 or retreat@smithfieldumc.org.

The Worship Workshop Live! At First Burleson with Marcia McFee — Oct. 17

<http://www.fumcburleson.org>

Discover God's Call — Nov. 6-8

Nov 6 - 8, Heart of Texas Baptist Retreat Center, Brownwood. Do you know your spiritual gifts that God has enabled you with? Do you know what God is calling you to do? Come to Discover God's Call in November. For more info or to register contact kathychecki@juno.com or judykreitner@juno.com.

Roots of Change Group for Pastors/Church Staff in Fort Worth Area — Thru Nov. 19

Contact: Marianne at 817-339-5071.

2010 Faith Community Leadership Summit — Feb. 16

Will Rogers Memorial Center, Fort Worth

Contact: SharonBass@texashealth.org

Return to [Top](#)

Resources

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.

Advent Conspiracy: Can Christmas Still Change the World? Rick McKinley, Chris Seay and Greg Holder. Tired of the consumerism that has come to define Christmas? Through this engaging, four-session DVD curriculum and stand-alone book complete with study guide, *Advent Conspiracy* shows how readers can substitute compassion for consumption by practicing four simple but powerful, countercultural concepts: Worship Fully—because Christmas begins and ends with Jesus! Spend Less—and free up resources for things that truly matter. Give More—presence: helping hands, healing words, humble hearts. Love All—the poor, the forgotten, the marginalized, the sick, in ways that make a difference.

Stewardship Campaigns

Does your church have your plans completed for your Fall Stewardship Campaign? There is not much time left to be ready. If you want FREE assistance, contact Dick Swain at 817 573-7035 or at dnlswain@charter.net. Complete step-by-step plans will be provided to help you have a successful campaign. Every church should be conducting a stewardship campaign every year.

Financial Assistance

Does your church have all the financial procedures in place that provide the integrity your congregation expects? How are deposits and money counting handled? Do you have procedures in place to receive gifts, property or stock? Are you keeping the proper financial records that show your correct financial condition? If you need some FREE assistance, contact Dick Swain at 817 573-7035 or at dnlswain@charter.net. Meetings can be held with pastors or finance committees.

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.

Online Access to Clergy Sexual Misconduct Prevention Course

An Internet course on *Preventing Clergy Sexual Misconduct* (PCSM) is available to all clergy and to all supply pastors who are appointed to a charge in the CTC. All pastors, associates, supply pastors appointed to a charge, and other CTC clergy can now go to www.career-marriage.org/pcsm, click on “Login” and set up their personal PCSM access. Completing this course meets the requirement for training in preventing clergy sexual misconduct. There is no cost to clergy for this Internet course. To access the PCSM each eligible clergy needs to enter his/her name and work e-mail address as it is listed in CTC records. Clergy who encounter any technical difficulty contact Richard Hunt at pcsm@career-marriage.org. To verify that your name and e-mail address are correct in the conference database, contact Susan Briles at susan@ctcumc.org, 817-877-5222 or 800-460-8622. All information a person enters through his or her personal PCSM access account is strictly confidential and will not be shared with anyone. At the www.career-marriage.org/pcsm, all the buttons at the left side of the page are freely available to anyone at any time. This enables anyone with any misconduct concerns to access appropriate help. Access to all the top tool buttons is limited to those who are eligible to participate in the PCSM course.

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.

Return to [Top](#)

Needs, Resources, Opportunities

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

Part-Time Music Director

Smithfield UMC (6701 Smithfield Road, North Richland Hills 76182) seeks a part-time music director to oversee the music ministry which includes: directing the Chancel/Hand Bell Choirs, overseeing the children's music ministry, and monthly Live Out Loud Services on the first Wednesday of the month. Requires choosing hymns for Sunday worship services (8:30 a.m. and 10:50 a.m.), working closely with the pastor and overseeing the organist. Please e-mail resumes to pastorlisa@smithfieldumc.org. For questions or further assistance, please call 817-281-0314.

Cokesbury Bookstore: Temporary Sales Associate

Temporary help October - January. Actual start dates are still in the works. Might be able to start earlier. Job responsibilities are work on sales floor helping customers, shelving books. Job requires prolonged standing and walking, requires occasional lifting. The sales associate is responsible for providing excellent customer service to customers in the store and on the phone, maintaining assigned sections of the store through regular straightening, dusting, stocking shelves, visual merchandising, operate a cash register using approved procedures, and handle special orders for customers. Contact: Lynda Moore, 6333 Camp Bowie Blvd. Ste. 245, Fort Worth 76116, 817-763-9560.

Youth Director

First UMC of Joshua (5 miles SW of Burleson on Hwy. 174) is looking for a highly motivated, self-starter to be the director of youth ministries. FUMC Joshua is a growing church in a growing community. Twenty hours per week. Contact: Lara Whitley at larawhitley@gmail.com or 817-558-9801.

Music Director and Pianist

Harker Heights UMC seeks qualified applicants for two positions:

- part-time music director, responsible for providing spiritual musical oversight.
- part-time pianist, responsible for providing accompaniment to the Praise Band, Choir and membership hymns. Contact HHUMC at 254-699-6271.

Children and Youth Workers

Edge Park UMC seeks two part-time persons to work in the respective areas of children and youth. College age or seminary students are preferable for both of these active roles in designing and carrying out ministry opportunities for elementary children and also for youth. Salary is negotiable and commensurate with experience and training. Send resume to Lynn D. Moore at ldmoore74@att.net or to 5616 Crowley Road, Fort Worth, TX 76134.

Christian Education Position Sought by DRC Immigrant

Joseph Kazaki, ordained Presbyterian minister from the Democratic Republic of Congo, seeks political asylum in the U.S. and has just received his Green Card allowing him to be employed. He has been related to First UMC of Hurst and volunteering in mission work. He is well educated in the DRC and U.S. and seeks a position in Christian education, if possible, but is open to any ministry-related job. He speaks English and French and is available to speak with groups and classes about the church in the Congo or the political situation there. He hopes to bring his family to the U.S. in the next year or so. For more details on Joseph, contact Henry Radde at 817-291-8965 or Hurst member Bob Nethers at 918-282-1326, or contact Joseph directly at 817-282-1055.

Publishing/Administrative Assistant

First UMC of Keller seeks an energetic professional to fill the role of publishing/administrative assistant.

Applicants must be proficient in Microsoft Office, Adobe InDesign and familiarity in other Adobe products. Ideal applicant would have experience, be able to multi-task and meet deadlines. Please e-mail resumes to lisag@kellerumc.org or call 817-431-1332 for more information.

Youth Ministries Director

First UMC of Crawford seeks a committed and dynamic person of faith for a part time position of director of youth ministries. The successful candidate will be a seminary student who has experience working with youth. The position is for 10 hours per week. Contact Rebecca Hull at crawfordumc@netzero.net.

Youth Director

Youth director, part-time up to 20 hours per week. 7-12 youth with great possibilities in a growing church outside of Waco. Contact: Allen Grant at pastor@chinaspringumc.com or 254-836-1107.

Associate Director of Music Ministries

First UMC of Bursleson seeks candidates for associate director of music ministries to: assist and support the director in leading vocal and bell choirs, provides leadership for the Sunday Morning Blend, direct the youth, drama and Glory Ringers (bell) choirs, serves as a backup for the accompanist and participate in staff development and meetings as needed. For more details, contact Mark Stamper at 817-723-9397 (cell) or maest1020@yahoo.com.

P-T Worship Leader

First UMC of Fort Worth (www.fumcftw.org) seeks a part-time worship leader to create an engaging, welcoming environment in which youth in grades 7-12 will experience real Christian community through worship, teaching, music, media and other creative venues. Responsibilities for the position include coordinating the youth worship service with the youth ministry staff and leading the student band for Sunday worship and fellowship opportunities on Sunday and Wednesday evenings. Our candidate should have multiple musical abilities and experience in leading worship. Please send resume to Brandon Frenzel at FUMC Fort Worth, Director of Youth Ministries, 800 W. 5th Street, Fort Worth 76102 or bfrenzel@myfumc.org.

P-T Praise Team Leader

First UMC of Corsicana seeks a part-time praise team leader to lead the existing Praise Team. The ideal candidate will be a devoted and energetic person with a passion for Christ and a desire and ability to share that passion with the congregation through music. This person must possess strong musical leadership, have a broad knowledge of contemporary Christian music, be able to utilize the latest multi-media technology, and have strong leadership and communication skills. Other desired attributes are friendly, creative, collaborative, adaptable and outgoing, and someone who wants to become a part of our church family. The church's goal is for the new contemporary worship to grow in the community as well as within the church walls. If God is calling you to this ministry, please contact Steve Moss, associate pastor, at 214-803-3609 or e-mail your resume to stevem@fumccorsicana.org.

Director of Music & Worship

Woodway First UMC (21000 Woodway Dr., Waco 76712) is accepting applications for director of music and worship until Sept. 1 with the position to be filled by Oct. 1. Candidates should be able to provide: leadership in a spiritual ministry through music, primary oversight of all music staff, oversight and management of the music and worship programs, oversight and leadership for all worship services; serve as primary choir director for sanctuary choir; establish and lead choral and instrumental ensembles for worship and other events; arrange and schedule vocalists for worship; flexibility in worship planning and execution. An advanced music degree with at least five years experience in professional choral conducting preferred. Experience in church choral programs is preferred. This is a part-time position; salary is negotiable dependent on experience. Submit applications to Linda Smith at 254-751-0411. Contact: Search Committee Chair Danny Londenberg for more details at 254-751-0411.

Hammond Organ

First UMC of Dawson is giving away a Hammond Organ, model M-101. The upper and lower keyboards (along with the associated stops and drawbars) work just fine. The volume control pedal works, but the bass pedals do not work very well, but they may simply need a cleaning. The organ is free to anyone who can pick it up. Contact Michael Redmond at 903-229-2123 or michaelr@valornet.com to arrange for a time. The organ needs a good home with someone who will play it.

Music Director

Stephenville First UMC seeks a full-time music director for their 1300-member church in rural central Texas. Duties include oversight of the entire music program (including part-time positions for pianist and contemporary music leader), conducting the chancel choir, recruiting and resourcing volunteer directors of children's, youth and handbell choirs, and leading or assisting with a variety of special programs or services throughout the year. Salary will be commensurate with experience and skill level. Health insurance and other benefits included. Motivated, organized servant leaders who enjoy creating excellent worship should apply. Contact Search Committee at fumc@our-town.com or 254-965-5046. The full job description is available at www.fumcville.org.

Part-time Choir Director

Hico FUMC seeks a choir director for the 10:50 a.m. worship service and possibly as worship leader for a contemporary service in the planning stages. This person should have a heart for sharing the Gospel through the music ministry, must have experience directing a church choir, be confident in making decisions about weekly anthems and special music at Christmas and Easter, be available for Wednesday evening rehearsals and Sunday morning worship. Please contact SPRC Chair Buddy Teague at fumchico@embarqmail.com.

Full-time Director of Youth Ministries

St. John's UMC, Georgetown, is expanding a vital youth program and needs a person who is committed to Christ; knows, loves and relates to youth; and is capable of planning and directing programs for youth and their families. Salary commensurate with education and experience. Send resume and questions to Jim Fagg, SPRC Chair, St John's UMC, 311 E. University Drive, Georgetown, Texas 78626.

Pianist/Organist

Midlothian is seeking applicants for pianist/organist position. This is a part-time position that includes accompanying the Adult Choir at Wednesday night rehearsal and playing for two services each Sunday morning. Salary and hours are negotiable. Position opens mid-June. Please submit applications to Billy Pritchett at billyp@fumc-midlothian.org. For more information call 682-465-1371.

Part-time Music Director

First UMC of Glen Rose seeks a part-time music director. Some of the responsibilities include preparing and leading adult choir for weekly services, choosing hymns for worship services, working with pianist, organist and pastor for worship and special services. If interested, e-mail resume to fumc@valornet.com or mail to FUMC, P.O. Box 426, Glen Rose 76043. For information you may call the church office at 254-897-2572.

Return to [Top](#)

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.