

“TO MAKE
DISCIPLES
ACCORDING TO
THE GREAT
COMMANDMENT
AND THE GREAT
COMMISSION”

WAXAHACHIE DISTRICT NEWSLETTER

May 27, 2010

RIGHT AROUND THE CORNER...



Preparing to Receive a New Pastor

In the Lewis Center for Church Leadership's *Leading Ideas* online newsletter Dr. Robert Crossmam says, "Welcoming a new pastor in genuine and effective ways lays the groundwork for a healthy and vital relationship and for the development of stable, long-term ministries together." The following suggestions from 50 Ways to Welcome your New Senior or Associate Pastor (http://www.churchleadership.com/leadingideas/leaddocs/2010/100428_article2.html)

THANK YOU...

Waxahachie FUMC for hosting our District Conference!

Ken Diem for the detailed Pension presentation!

Also, thank you Tim Downey for running the audio/visual programs.

Because of your combined efforts, our District Conference was a success!

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Last Chance for Free Sexual Misconduct Prevention Training

Many pastors will be needing to take the prevention training again this year. At the beginning of June, this online training will cost \$50 to take. **It is free until the end of May.** We suggest that you take advantage now in order to avoid the charges. CTC clergy can now go to www.career-marriage.org/pcsm, click on "Login" and set up their personal PCSM access. 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.

CTC Accepting Online Payments

Churches are able to make secure, electronic payments for apportionments, insurance, pension, and cafeteria plan. From the conference webpage (www.ctcumc.org) click on "Administration," then "Apportionments," then "Online Payments." Paying online is an easy 1-2-3-step process. Contact David Stinson, 817-877-5222, 800-460-8622, or david@ctcumc.org if you have questions or need more information.

REMINDER: The District office will be closed on Monday, May 31st for the Memorial Day Holiday!

2010 ANNUAL CONFERENCE

**BLESSED ARE YOU
who find no fault in
thy brother or sister
that you are
unwilling to discuss
with them in
Christian love, for
“talking to” is far
mightier than
“talking about.”**

Kick Off Annual Conference with a Friendship Dinner

The annual Hispanic Ministries *Cena de Amistad* (Friendship Dinner) will be Sunday, **June 6 from 5:30-7 pm** in the Justin Youth Building at First UMC Fort Worth. Come have a wonderful catered meal, live entertainment, and celebrate. Then just walk across the parking lot to opening worship. [Click here for the flyer and registration.](#) Registration is due by June 1, 2010.

Youth Mission Celebration & Commissioning

Join youth groups from around the conference for an afternoon picnic celebrating Youth in Mission and Commissioning Service during the opening worship of Annual Conference 2010. When: **June 6**; Where: Picnic @ Trinity Park, University Exit, Fort Worth, Commissioning @ FUMC Fort Worth; What time: **Picnic @ 4:30pm Service @ 7pm**; How much: FREE (Includes Dinner & Music!). Please use [this form](#) to register your group by May 24. Bring blankets, frisbees, other things to make a picnic fun. Wear a t-shirt from a past mission trip or that represents your church. Yes, t-shirts will be ok to wear to the service!! Remember - ALL youth groups are invited that will be participating in some form of mission/service this summer. It is NOT limited to those participating in CTCYM. Click [here](#) for the registration form.

CTC Ministers Spouses Organization invites you to: **2010 Annual Conference Spouses Luncheon** on **June 7, 2010 12:15pm** Luncheon will be held at First UMC, Fort Worth at Wesley Hall. The cost is \$12.50 per person. Reservation Deadline: May 25

CTC United Methodist Women's Annual Conference Luncheon. June 8th, 2010—
Click [here](#) for a flyer with more details!

Annual Conference to Collect Cleaning Buckets

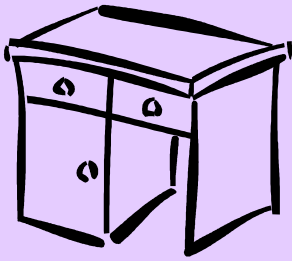
UMCOR sent relief aid to the Mississippi Annual Conference responding to needs there after multiple tornadoes swept through 17 counties on April 23. Severe weather again struck the southeast last weekend when thunderstorms, flooding and high winds believed to be tornadoes raged through Tennessee, Mississippi and Kentucky on Saturday and Sunday, causing widespread destruction. You can help! Please collect Cleaning Buckets and bring them with you to drop off at Annual Conference's Opening Worship. Click [here](#) to learn how you can help provide these material resources.

Printing of Preliminary Reports

Clergy, please make sure that your lay members to Annual Conference have the ability to print out the Preliminary Report from the Conference website. If they do not, please print it for them. The district office will make a few copies available at District conference!

E.O. Complimentary Lunch Monday at Annual Conference

Join Dr. Scott Youngblood and Paula Cole for a complimentary lunch Monday, June 7 at Blue Mesa Grill, 1600 S. University, less than 10 minutes from Will Rogers to learn about Educational Opportunities, a travel ministry founded by UM Clergy Dr. Bill Ridgeway. Since 1974, over 350,000 passengers have traveled with EO on Christian Cruises, Tours and Holy Land tours. R.S.V.P. to yngbld0223@Yahoo.com



FROM THE WAY OF GOD WE GO

You know you work for the Methodist Church if...

Start-Up doesn't have anything to do with your car.

LIFE AS MARATHON

As part of our learning covenant, the Cabinet is reading Brian McClaren's, "Finding Our Way Again, the Return of the Ancient Practices." In it he speaks of cheering on his daughter Rachel, as she completes her first marathon, 26 miles of running! At the finish line, as she catches her breath, Brian shares with her how proud he is and how much joy her accomplishment has brought him. Her reply to him was a breathless, "You know Dad, you could do this too." His response was that he wouldn't make it half a mile. To this she replied, "But if you train...if you train for 6 months, you could do it. I did. You'd just have to decide and then train."

What a parable of the way of discipleship! Life, discipleship is a marathon. Often our discipleship ends at the starting line or at the half mile marker. We make the decision but we fail to train. Both deciding and training are essential. The deciding comes fairly easy but the training not so much. Research tells us that there is a large spike in fitness center membership in January, but a sharp decline in membership and activity by April. It's easy to decide to lose weight but much harder to train or to practice.

It is not a solitary event either. Have you seen the thousands of runners at the New York Marathon or any marathon? I've been to a couple of marathons and have discovered that runners share a community and a tradition. There are magazines, manuals, clubs, associations, etc. devoted to running. The tradition of the Marathon goes back to ancient Greece and the Battle of Marathon. So it is with the church and our community and tradition. Our training then is not the learning of belief alone, but the practices that enable us to run the marathon of discipleship as a way of life. The list is not clearly defined but most often includes prayer, worship, Bible study, Sabbath, solitude, etc. To be remembered is that life is a marathon requiring constant deciding and training. As Rachel told her father, we all can do this. We must decide and train within our practices, community and tradition.

Dear Rev. Scott,

Greetings to you. I want to invite you to participate in a leadership class in family systems theory I will again be leading beginning this fall. For more than sixteen years, I have been conducting leadership groups for clergy and other leaders based on the ideas of the late Edwin Friedman who pioneered in the application of Bowen Family Systems Theory to leadership. The purpose of these classes is for clergy of all faiths and denominations to learn how the concepts of family emotional process can be applied to all aspects of their work. Hundreds of clergy from fourteen denominations and two faith traditions throughout the south have participated in these classes.

This fall, I will again be leading groups across Texas and Arkansas. Each class is a mix of theory presentation, as well as family of origin and work systems presentations. For more information about the classes, as well as the schedules, meeting places, and comments from class participants please go to my website at: www.ministryleadershipconcepts.com

You can register online for the classes at the website. I hope you will consider being in one of these classes.

Rev. Doug Hester, D.Min.
St. Andrew Lutheran Church
16320 Huebner Rd.
San Antonio, Texas 78248

Here is what The Rev. Mike Cave, pastor at St. Andrew's United Methodist Church in San Antonio, has to say about the class: **"In my 15 years of active parish ministry, I have participated in Dr. Doug Hester's 'Family Systems' class for 13. The classes have helped not only my pastor-parish relationships, but my family relationships as well. Plus, I feel I've grown both as a person and as a pastor. Most exciting is that I find myself thinking more systematically about the church, my family, and all my relationships. I recommend the class for all."**

Doug Hester
rdhester@earthlink.net

Church Growth & Development

From the Office of Church Growth & Development-

Thank you to the churches who have so graciously let Gary & I come and speak to your congregations. We appreciate it so very much!! You have truly been a blessing to us and we pray you will be examples to others of how to support Church Growth. Please continue to talk about Church Growth and encourage your members to be shareholders as part of their Faith-walk. Thank you to those we have visited and those we will visit soon!

Together we can make a difference!

Gary & Vicki

Can you give us a few minutes?

Who we are: Gary Lindley, Director of Church Growth & Development – Vicki Eldredge, Administrative Assistant

About us: Dedicated to church growth. Willingness to drive. A strong desire to talk (to others).

Our commitment: Gain 2,010 more shareholders to help us offer Christ to the many in need.

Our desire: We would love to come to your church on the Sunday of your choice to talk about the SHARES Program and Church Growth and Development. We are filling in our fall calendars and would love to come sometime to offer your congregations the opportunity.

Our hope: To give every member of our conference the chance to have a SHARE in starting a new church!

How: Call Vicki at 817-877-5222 or 800-460-8622 or email at vicki@ctcumc.org.

Church Growth & Development Accepting Online Payments

Churches and individuals are able to make secure, electronic payments for Shares. From the conference webpage (www.ctcumc.org) click on "Administration," then "Apportionments," then "Online Payments." Go down to "Other" payments (you can type in Church Growth). Paying online is an easy 1-2-3-step process. Contact David Stinson, 817-877-5222, 800-460-8622, or david@ctcumc.org if you need more information.

Remaining 2010 Events at Mount Sequoyah

June 27-29: *Addiction Conference*

This conference equips clergy and congregations with community resources and response for families, congregations, and community. CEU credit will be given for attending this conference. Contact Cindy Sloan at SPSARV for details about scholarships at 866-444-3330. Register at www.mountsequoyah.org.

Oct. 18-22: *Leaves of Gold*

This retreat features worship, fellowship, workshops, tours, laughter, learning and fun during the turning of the leaves to gold at Mount Sequoyah! Bishop Richard Wilke will be the featured worship leader. Register online by Oct. 10 at www.mountsequoyah.org.

Oct. 25-28: *Autumn Time*

Autumn Time is a wonderful experience featuring worship, praise, fellowship, laughter and fun! Workshops include centering prayer, spiritual journaling, exercise, nutrition workshop, military workshop, tour of the AR Air Museum. Register online by Oct. 15 at www.mountsequoyah.org

A NOTE FROM JEFF BISHOP of America's Best Coffee Reserve:

The process for setting up accounts in our system is relatively simple to do, however it is not at all apparent from the current state of things in our website. My sense is that this could be a hindrance to folks who want to take advantage of our coffees and fundraising opportunities. We're working on streamlining the process online, but we're not quite there yet. In short, I believe that we will need to walk people through the process with the tools as they are.

I would be very happy to sit down with pastors or staffers and help facilitate getting them set up and answer any questions they might still have. We are deeply committed to making this a successful revenue generator for your churches.

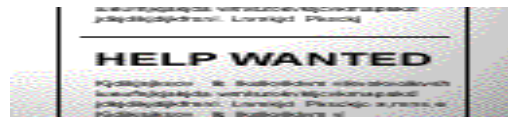
Contact Jeff at (817)891-1987 or by email at jbishop738@gmail.com

Opportunities

Oct 25-27, 2010 at Stillwater Retreat Center in Glen Rose. The Sower's Bag...A Sermon Writing Retreat based on the Readings for the Advent Season, Christmas Eve/Day. Fill your sermon writing bag with useful seeds as you prepare yourself and your sermons for the Advent Season. **Contact the District office for scholarship information.** Click [here](#) for more information and registration forms.

The next Soderquist Center - Renew Retreat for clergy and their spouses are scheduled for July 13-15 at the Inn on Lake Granbury. The retreat is completely free. The only cost is the transportation to and from the retreat, which *will not* be reimbursed. Many Central Texas clergy couples have been given the opportunity to attend. All have had a great experience. We cannot accept any repeat couples. This is the first time we have been given a summer date. We hope this time we will be able to accommodate the clergy couples whose spouses are teachers.

If any pastors or other leaders are interested in learning more about how to use technology for ministry, you might be interested in the free webinars that Cheryl Hemmerle at UCom does every Tues. morning at 10am Central time. If you can't make it at 10am, all the past and current topics are archived and you can view one at your own convenience. For more information [including the list of archived topics] and/or to sign up go to www.umcom.org/webinars



Pianist

Lakeside UMC, a beautiful church on the north side of the Richland-Chambers Reservoir in the quiet little town of Saint Elmo seeks a piano player for Sunday morning worship and choir rehearsal. Hours are about 8:00 until noon. The pianist will work with the choir director to present congregational and choir music to the congregation. The pianist must be able to sight-read new material and follow the instructions of the director. If interested, please call Rev. Sandra Hippman at 903-599-3080 or Bill Brunson at 903-599-4035.

Director of Youth Ministries

First UM Church, Red Oak, TX is seeking an enthusiastic youth director. The position is half time and will require working with jr. and sr. high youth. Requirements: experience in youth ministry preferred, excellent communication and relationship building skills and excellent references. Needs to have a good understanding of Methodist Doctrine and be a mature spiritual leader with a heart for youth and their families. Be able to plan/coordinate activities for 7 - 12 graders, including weekly bible study, Sunday school, youth meetings, fundraisers, and annual mission trip. Additional ministry opportunities available depending on gifts and graces. Contact church office at **972-617-9100** for an application. Start date is mid May, 2010.

Pianist

Frost United Methodist Church is seeking a pianist for their Sunday morning worship service. Please contact Rev. Leah Hidde-Gregory for more information at leah@yahoo.com or **972-322-1383**.

Worship Leader

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

JOYS & CONCERNS

ADDRESS:

**WAXAHACHIE
DISTRICT OFFICE
P O BOX 156
WAXAHACHIE,
TEXAS 75168**

PHONE:

972-937-8891

TOLL FREE:

800-895-8891

FAX:

877-300-9143

EMAIL:

**WAXAHACHIE@
CTCUMC.ORG**

**If you would like us
to include your
prayer requests or
to share your joys in
our weekly
newsletter, please
contact the District
Office.**

WAXAHACHIE DISTRICT:

Dan Hippman, Rev Sandra Hippman's husband
Cindy Redmond, Rev. Michael Redmond's wife
Rev. Jan Baldwin
Jackie Gause

BROWNWOOD DISTRICT:

Sharon Bell (Gorman FUMC/Dublin, Laurel St.) – diabetic complications
Irad Cochran, father of Cathy Mordecai (Dublin FUMC/Green's Creek)
DJ Cowdrey, sister of Vicki Eldredge (CTC Church Growth & Development)
John Morrow is undergoing chemo treatments for his cancer. John is the brother of Clint Morrow, husband of Carol Woods (DS).
J.W. & Sibyl Hodges (retired & living in Dublin)
Jim & Terri Olney –chemo treatments continue for Jim
Sharon Reed, wife of Bill Reed (St. Paul, Breckenridge/Eolian)
Sara Reed, mother of Dean Reed (Stephenville FUMC)
Nancy Suggs, wife Norman Suggs (TSU Wesley Foundation)- Nancy's broken arm is healing nicely
Klel Quesenberry (retired & living in DeLeon)
Aldersgate Enrichment Center – Your prayers bring many blessings & continue to be very much appreciated!
A Memorial Service scheduled for Dorothy Davis, mother of Alice Torian (wife of Gary Torian, Central/Lake Brownwood) this Saturday, May 29, 11:00 am at the Central United Methodist Church. Mrs. Davis passed away April.

FORT WORTH DISTRICT:

Congratulations to Jessica Gutierrez, daughter of Raul Gutierrez, who graduated from University of Texas this month.
Rev Mary Fortner celebrate the graduation of her daughter Katie Fortner from Oklahoma City University on May 8, She earned a BS in Business.
Osvaldo Benitez, recovering from gall bladder surgery.
Susan and Tim Bruster's granddaughter, Alice Caroline Pepper, born May 13 to their daughter Saran and husband Stephen Pepper.
The wedding May 29 of Kristin Beth Boyd (daughter of Bill Boyd of Kennedale and Gail Boyd of Waco) to Dominic Christopher Soria of Los Angeles, Ca. They will be married in Austin, Texas
Russ Middleton, Buddy Stegman's brother in law, triple bypass surgery.
George Gregory, father of Janice Gregory, medical procedure and had a fall.
Frank Briggs's mother Joan Briggs, deteriorating health issues
DJ Cowdrey – Vicki Eldredge's sister
Jeannie Trevino-Teddlie – break cancer surgery
Leonard Radde

MID-CITIES DISTRICT:

Scott Youngblood (Trinity) – problems with his knee
Mike Dawson (New World)
Jeannie Trevino-Teddlie (Perkins School of Theology) – Breast cancer surgery
Sidney Roberts – recuperating from surgery

TEMPLE DISTRICT:

Jack Riley, Bartlett—health concerns

WACO DISTRICT:

Marion Rice (mother of Denise Rogers)
Jennifer Brockmeier's Uncle, Bill Bennett
Dawn Gillilands Dad Rev. C.D. "Red" Williams
Robert Moran– facing Back Surgery

CTC OFFICES:

Judy Hall
Luis Hernandez
Catherine Simpson
2010-2011 Student Leadership Team
SLT Orientation Retreat June 4-6
CTCYM participants
Summer Mission Trip participants
Those affected by the oil spill

Thanksgiving:
LifePoint - road repair approved
New Ghanian church
Robinson property sold