

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

# WAXAHACHIE DISTRICT NEWSLETTER

June 17, 2010

## WELCOME

TO THE DISTRICT!!!



**Leslie & John Byrd—Kerens/Pleasant Grove**

**Allen & Darlene Grant—Red Oak**

**Krista Ingram—1st Italy**

**Joel & Christi Robbins—Ovilla**

**Donna Ware—1st Hillsboro**

**Ted & Gayle Willis—Eureka/Barry**

Others changing within the District:

**Nancy & Jim Summers—Blooming Grove/Dresden**

**Randy & Kathy Tucker—Britton & Assoc at 1st  
Midlothian**

Please welcome and pray for each of these as we experience  
new beginnings together.

### New Elders:

**David Alexander**

**Sheila Fiorella**

### Provisional Elders:

**Leah Hidde-Gregory**

**Steve Moss**

**Sandralyn Pierce**

### Inside this issue:

Welcome and  
Congratulations

1

Notes from Don  
Important News

2

Important News

3

Seminars  
&  
Job Openings

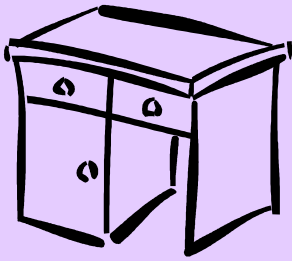
4

Joys  
&  
Concerns

5

## **Conference Centennial Celebration October 23<sup>rd</sup> – PUT IT ON YOUR CALENDAR!**

Please put our Centennial Celebration on your church calendar and take special care to make sure nothing else (Lord's Acre, meetings, Etc. ) is scheduled that day so that all clergy and church members are available to come celebrate. As you heard at Annual Conference, Bishop Lowry recognizes the significance of this event and expects that you will too.



THE WAY WE DO DISTRICT

## AFFINITY GROUPS

Beginning this summer we are changing the way we do "district". Instead of general district meetings, we will be gathering in affinity groups based upon church and personal characteristics. I will suggest the groups and who should attend, but will leave a large part of the governance to each group. The goal is to be fruitful and to create horizontal networks inter connected with others. I will expect that every pastor participate in at least one group. As the groups based on church characteristics gel, I hope that the groups will become for laity, leaders of the church. More will be coming about this soon. Please be attentive to the news. If you have suggestions for affinity groups or other suggestions please respond.

Don

Possible Affinity Groups:

Worship Size	Women In Ministry
Age Levels	Part Time Pastors
Full Time Local Pastors	Elders
Supply	Provisional Elders & Deacons
Seminaries	What others???

### 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](http://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](mailto:david@ctcumc.org) if you have questions or need more information.

### Media Library Feature at [www.ctcumc.org](http://www.ctcumc.org)

The Media Library for audio, video and still photos is the latest feature to be added to the conference website. Local churches and other ministry organizations are invited to share their stories/images. Click on the "Media Library" menu item on the right side of the page and follow the instructions. It would be best to keep the video clips relatively short and to be judicious about the number of photos from a single event. We ask that all material be consistent with UM values.

### Check Out Facebook Page for Leaders in Adult Ministries/Discipleship

Leaders of adult ministries/adult discipleship in CTC churches will want to take advantage of the new Facebook page for all who would like to be connected for support, resources, etc. Check out [www.facebook.com](http://www.facebook.com), then the group CTC Adult Ministries/Adult Discipleship. Join the Facebook group and the face-to-face meetings every quarter or so. Look for future information, or contact Karen Granderson at 817-877-5222, 800-460-8622 or [Karen@ctcumc.org](mailto:Karen@ctcumc.org).

Subscribe to the Bishop's new blog!

Bishop Lowry has started a new blog site you can find at [www.bishopmikelowry.com](http://www.bishopmikelowry.com). You can subscribe via email to receive the latest writings from the Bishop by visiting this new site, clicking on "subscribe" at the top of the page, and then following the instructions to supply your email address. You may also see the latest updates on Facebook by "friending" the Bishop at [www.facebook.com/bishopmikelowry](http://www.facebook.com/bishopmikelowry).

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

You know that a multi-point charge is not a shopping spree.

## 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](mailto: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](http://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](mailto: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](http://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](http://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](http://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.

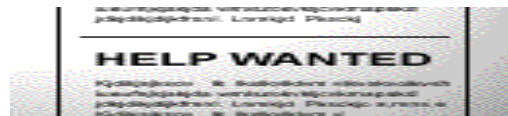
I would be very happy to sit down with pastors or staffers and help facilitate getting them set up and answer any questions they might still have. We are deeply committed to making this a successful revenue generator for your churches.

# Opportunities

**July 22-24, 2010** Contrast and Companionship: The Way of the Church with the World. A missional church convocation for pastors, judicatory and lay leaders. The featured speaker is Dr. George Hunsberger. For more details click [here](#).

**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.

**July 13-15, 2010** - Renew Retreat for clergy and their spouses is scheduled for July 13-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.



### **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 [pas-tor\\_leah@yahoo.com](mailto:pas-tor_leah@yahoo.com) or **972-322-1383**.

### **Worship Leader**

New Day UMC ([www.ndumc.com](http://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](mailto:Sheila@newdayumc.com) or to P.O. Box 2125, Mansfield 76063.

## JOYS & CONCERNS

### **WAXAHACHIE DISTRICT:**

Dan Hippman, Rev Sandra Hippman's husband (Lakeside)  
Shirley Pierce, Sandralyn Pierce's mother (Blooming Grove/Dresden)  
Rev. Jan Baldwin (Ferris Heights)  
Jackie Gause, Jim Gause's wife (Mansfield)

### **BROWNWOOD DISTRICT:**

DJ Cowdrey, sister of Vicki Eldredge (CTC Church Growth & Development)  
J.W. & Sibyl Hodges (retired & living in Dublin)  
Jeanie Holston – surgery on June 21 – recovery time is 3-6 weeks.  
David Kerzee, father of Mike Kerzee (Coleman FUMC/Novice)  
Curtis & Vicki Lackey (District UMM President) in the recent death of their niece LeaAnn.  
John Morrow is undergoing chemo treatments for his cancer. John is the brother of Clint Morrow, husband of Carol Woods (DS).  
Jim & Terri Olney (Incapacity Leave) – Jim's tumors have reduced in size and his chemo treatments have stopped for now. He is recovering from an infection unrelated to his cancer.  
Sharon Reed, wife of Bill Reed (St. Paul, Breckenridge/Eolian)  
Sharon Robertson (Hico FUMC/Pleasant Hill) will have foot surgery on June 23 and the recovery time will be 2 weeks.  
John & Linda Seth (Blanket/Mullin) & family in the recent death of their son Jonathon Seth of Ohio. A Memorial Service was held this past Saturday at Comanche FUMC. The family requests that any memorial gifts in Jonathon's memory go to Comanche FUMC.  
Nancy Suggs, wife Norman Suggs (TSU Wesley Foundation)  
Klel Quesenberry (retired & living in DeLeon) – recent surgery  
Aldersgate Enrichment Center – Your prayers bring many blessings & continue to be very much appreciated!

Please remember in your time of prayer John & Linda Seth (Blanket/Mullin) & family in the recent death of their son Jonathon Seth. Jonathon passed away suddenly at his home in Ohio. He also leaves behind a wife and young son. A Memorial Service is planned for a later date.

### **FORT WORTH DISTRICT:**

Buddy and Claire Stegman's daughter Stephanie, hospitalized and undergoing testing.  
Our deepest sympathies are extended to Frank Briggs and his family on the passing of his mother, Joan Briggs on June 15.  
Frank Brigg's wife, Kris has pneumonia.  
Congratulations to Elizabeth and Kevin Brown, proud parents of twins Lauren Faith Brown and Bryson Reid Brown, born May 30. Grandma, Mary Gean Cope, is praising God and taking care of grandchildren.  
Russ Middleton, Buddy Steman's brother in law, triple bypass surgery.  
George Gregory, father of Janice Gregory, medical procedures and a fall.  
DJ Cowdrey—Vicki Eldredge's sister  
Jeannie Trevino-Teddlie– Breast cancer surgery  
Leonard Radde

### **MID-CITIES DISTRICT:**

Beverly Tye's mother

### **TEMPLE DISTRICT:**

Allie Criswell, mother-in-law of Judy Criswell, passed away on Tuesday, June 15th.  
Judy Gotcher, Granger, as she continues to recover from her recent fall. While her face is still a little bruised, all her stitches are out and all is going well.  
Jack Riley, Bartlett, health concerns.  
David Kerzee, father of Mike Kerzee, Copperas Cove, Grace

### **CTC OFFICES:**

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