



*A Spiritual Oasis Committed to Christ,
to Peace, and to Service*

June 2022

Cedar Park First United Methodist Church

Connections

Newsletter

Live Stream Worship Now on Website Home Page

Since March 2020, we have been livestreaming a Sunday morning worship service. Originally, the livestreaming destination was Facebook-only since that was the most convenient destination technologically, members knew how to use it and there was no cost involved beyond the livestreaming system in which we had already invested.

In the Spring of 2021, we expanded our livestreaming destinations to include our YouTube channel. This allowed us to expand our livestreaming reach to those who were unfamiliar with Facebook or did not have a Facebook account. It also gave us an additional outlet in case there were problems with the Facebook-only connection. To make this expansion, we established an account with Restream.io, a local multi-streaming company headquartered in Austin. This costs us about \$33 a month.

Restream has now developed a new technology to embed our livestream on our own church website at no additional cost to us. The only technological limitation is that the website- embedded livestream does not currently have the chat functionality available at our Facebook and YouTube destinations. The compensating benefit is

[Stream continued on p. 5](#)

Conversations with our Members

Submitted by Anita Martin

At a recent Church Council meeting it was suggested that we introduce “A Conversation with” members of the congregation. I volunteered for this project and Jessyka and Paul Gay graciously agreed to be the first participants.

This is the Church Council’s attempt to help connect our congregation on a more personal level. I will be randomly selecting members of the congregation to participate in this endeavor. If you get an email from me, please be open to the opportunity to respond when I ask you to share some insight into your family.

Following is the conversation I had with the Gay family.

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HOLY LAND TRIP

Saturday, May 28 Itinerary: Board your flight and begin your adventure.

Sunday, May 29 Itinerary: Arrive in the Holy Land and transfer to your Netanya hotel. Hotel: Leonardo Plaza

Monday, May 30 Itinerary: Journey to Caesarea by the Sea. Most experts believe Paul addressed King Agrippa and Festus here. Explore many extensive remains, including a Roman aqueduct, Herod's Palace, and Crusader Ruins. You'll also have the possibility of free time at the seaside. Mt. Carmel is where Elijah called down fire from heaven. From atop you can view the whole Jezreel Valley. In Nazareth, imagine Jesus's childhood and when his fellow villagers tried to throw Him from a cliff. Megiddo holds fascinating ruins, most especially a tunnel dug thousands of years ago to bring water to the city. After your day's adventures, transfer to your Galilee hotel for dinner and overnight. (B, D) Hotel: Leonardo Club

Tuesday, May 31 Itinerary: From the top of Mt. Arbel, you can see all the way from the Golan Heights to the Jordan Valley. After you come down, you'll pass through the Valley of the Doves, a beautiful portion of the path Jesus and His followers would take when traveling between Nazareth and Capernaum. As you explore Magdala, you'll learn how Jesus shocked religious leaders by letting women experience worship in unheard of ways. Overlooking the Sea of Galilee is the peaceful Mount of Beatitudes, where Jesus preached the Sermon on the Mount. And Eremos Cave is where Jesus would enjoy solitude. The Church of the Fish and Loaves celebrates when Jesus fed the multitude with just a few fish and loaves. Jesus spent much of His ministry in Capernaum and called several of the disciples. Then enjoy a boat ride on the Sea of Galilee before traveling back to your Galilee hotel for dinner and overnight. (B, D) Hotel: Leonardo Club

Wednesday, June 1 Itinerary: Travel to Beit Shean, which has been continuously inhabited for over 5,000 years and is where the Philistines hung the bodies of Saul and his sons on the city walls. Jesus began preaching and proclaiming the Kingdom of Heaven after His baptism by John. If you want to affirm or declare your faith today, wade into the same waters He did for your own baptism. Walk the remains of an ancient community near the shores of the Dead Sea at Qumran. In the caves near here, Bedouins discovered what became known as the Dead Sea Scrolls. Then enjoy the drive to your Dead Sea hotel for dinner and overnight. (B, D) Hotel: Leonardo Plaza Dead Sea

Thursday, June 2 Itinerary: Encounter Masada, the spectacular mountaintop fortress built by Herod that later became the final tragic stronghold of the Jewish rebellion against the Romans. Ride the cable car or hike to the top to explore the fortress and look down upon the remains of

Holy Land continued on p. 4



Potluck

Sunday, July 3, 2022 at Noon

Bring a cover dish.

All main dishes, side dishes, and desserts are welcome.



Followed by God's amazing adventures experienced by our Youth from their recent trip to the Holy Land.

If that is not enough excitement for you, the Youth will then share their stories of how they gave back to the community during their U. M. Army Mission trip.



A Child's Haven Happenings

ACH is a Christian preschool that provides a nurturing environment where all children are celebrated and encouraged to grow to their full potential! We offer part-time classes for children between the ages of 12 months and 5 years of age. We are open from 9:00-1:00 Monday through Thursday during the school year.

We are now enrolling for Summer Camp and the 2022-2023 school year!

Register online at <https://childshaven.net/>

Come join the fun!



acts of LOVE
EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION CENTER

Exciting news from Marta Santos: It is my pleasure to celebrate with you our 32nd mom to graduate with the help of AoL !!! Thank you all for sharing this joy with us and for the help you have given.

Please know that there are volunteer opportunities with AoL ... Just check the website: <http://actsoflovecec.com/> Please note, all volunteers must complete an application, background check, and training prior to volunteering.

(Holy Land from p. 2)



the Roman camps and siege ramp below. Jericho is another city that has been continuously inhabited for thousands of years. Here you can tour the ruins of the ancient city Joshua conquered. Off in the distance, you can see the traditional site of the Temptation of Jesus. View the Wadi Qelt, a deep gorge in the Judean Wilderness that may be the “valley of the shadow of death,” referred to in Psalm 23. Then enjoy an amazing view of Jerusalem from Mount Scopus. Transfer to your Jerusalem hotel for your overnight stay. (B) Hotel: Olive Tree

Friday, June 3 Itinerary: Discover the Mount of Olives where Jesus ascended

into heaven. Walk the Palm Sunday Road to the Dominus Flevit. Then visit the Garden of Gethsemane where Jesus prayed to His father to have the “cup pass from Him.” In the City of David, explore Hezekiah’s Tunnel, an amazing feat of ancient engineering. Observe contemporary Jewish traditions when you come the Jerusalem markets before Shabbat. Then at the Western Wall watch the Shabbat call. If time allows, take an evening drive to see the illuminated city walls. Return to your hotel for dinner and overnight. (B, D) Hotel: Olive Tree



Saturday, June 4 Itinerary: Continue to Mount Zion to visit the House of the High Priest Caiaphas, where Jesus was questioned. Visit the Pool of Bethesda where Jesus healed the blind man. Perhaps raise your voice in song at St. Anne’s Church. Then visit Herod’s Antonia Fortress, where Jesus appeared before Pilate, and follow in Christ’s footsteps on the Via Dolorosa. Reflect on Christ’s crucifixion as you visit the traditional site of Calvary and give thanks for our risen Savior when you visit the Garden Tomb. Enjoy dinner in Joppa before your night flight. (B,D)

Sunday, June 5 Itinerary: Return home with a renewed confidence in your faith

[Bible Maps New Testament I Holy Land Map Time Jesus | Yale Bible Study](#)

[Map-Holy Land in the Time of Jesus - Winchester First United Methodist \(winfumc.org\)](#)

Come to the Potluck after church on July 3 to hear about this amazing adventure.

(Stream from p. 1)

that our livestream can now be entirely contained in systems we control ourselves, independent of Facebook and YouTube.

Livestreaming to our website home page began on May 8, 2022. The website home page looks like this before the livestream becomes available:



The large black rectangle is the livestream window which is currently offline. Once the livestream becomes available at approximately 10:45 am on Sunday mornings, the black window activates automatically to show the livestream:



(continued on p. 6)

There is no Chat area, but there are a couple of controls available:



The speaker icon on the lower left allows you to mute or increase the sound volume, assuming that you have your home speakers turned on. The dashed line square icon on the far right allows you to enlarge the livestream to full screen size:



The number by the “eyeball” icon is a count of the number of people watching the embedded livestream:



If Facebook and YouTube are not your cup of tea, or if you forget how to get to either of those places on the web, just go over to the church website home page at <https://cpfumc.org>. You can catch the morning worship service livestream there at 10:45am each Sunday!

As always, we have recorded videos of recent past worship services available on the church website Find Out What’s Happening page at <https://cpfumc.org/find-out-whats-happening/>.

(Members from p. 1)

A Conversation with Jessyka and Paul Gay

Q: When was your first day at CPFUMC and what do you remember about it?

A: Sunday, Oct. 17, 2021. We remember that the people were welcoming.

Q: Tell us about what drew you to CPFUMC.

A: We had always wondered about this little church that we passed almost daily and decided to give it a try.

Q: What church did you come to CPFUMC from?

A: We were members of a Lutheran Church in Austin.

Q: Tell us about your family.

A: Paul and Jessyka are originally from Green Bay, WI (Go Pack Go). Audrey is from Corpus Christi, TX where we lived for 14 years on North Padre Island. We moved to Austin almost 4 years ago.

Q: Do you have any pets?

A: We have 3 Siamese cats.

Q: What do you like to do in your spare time? Or what takes up a lot of your time?

A: Paul works full time for ATT. When he's not working, he can be found working on various projects around the yard or house. Jessyka Homeschools full time and runs a couple of small businesses. One of her favorite things to do is go thrift shopping. Audrey builds Legos, plays piano, enjoys skateboarding and archery as well as architecture. As a family we love to play board games and spend time in our backyard pool or taking walks.



Q: Do you have a particular hobby? Is there one you want to learn?

A: Paul enjoys Dungeons and Dragons games. He and Audrey meet with a group virtually once a week. Jessyka is learning Calligraphy.

Q: What's your favorite restaurant or favorite meal?

A: Paul enjoys a good steak. Jessyka will eat Mexican anytime and Audrey would eat Subway everyday if she could.

Q: Where is your favorite vacation locale?

A: Paul and I love WI because our families are there and it's such a beautiful place. Audrey enjoys going to our friend's ranch in Art TX.

Q: I'd rather do anything besides

A: wait in a long line.

Q: Tell us something we might not know about you!

A: Paul used to be a bouncer and a bar tender. Jessyka loves to bake. Audrey is a very talented artist.



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR PROJECT TRANSFORMATION IN LEANDER

Leander United Methodist Church will be serving as a site church for Project Transformation, June 8 through July 28, 2022. Project Transformation is a program where college-age young adults lead a summer program for children from underserved neighborhoods.

Caring volunteers are **desperately needed** to read with children in grades 1-6, one-on-one, each day for 30 minutes per child. Volunteers can sign up for one day or multiple days throughout the summer and no prior experience is needed! All Reading Buddy volunteers are required to wear a mask and be fully vaccinated, be Safe Gatherings approved, and will need to complete online training prior to their first shift.

If you can be a Reading Buddy this summer for Project Transformation, please email Sue Sidney suesidney@aceweb.com or Karen Packard kvpackard@aol.com.

Our Summer Work Day is Back!

For the last two years, with the pandemic raging and all the uncertainty of when it would end, we did not hold any Fall or Spring work days in person, or at least not when all the volunteers would be at the church grounds at the same time. But thank God things have changed and even though we are a little late for a Spring work day, we are planning on a Summer work day this coming June 11th (9am – 12pm). Of course, you can always come in when it is convenient for you rather than on the planned day. A list of items is being prepared by the Trustees, items that need a little TLC. Once this is complete, we will post it to the church's web site so that you can add your name next to the item you wish to tackle. This list will also be posted in the Sanctuary's hallway for you to see what's needed. Your participation is much appreciated and we believe we will have the same enthusiastic response this Summer as we have always had from all of you. God bless.

Church Finance Report

The Church's operating fund financial status through April 30, 2022 is summarized below. In April expenses continued in line with our budget but pledged giving was below budgeted estimates. As a result we have a year to date deficit of \$10,672.01. Church members have made generous donations to missions and other causes, but we encourage you to also remember the importance of giving to the Church operating fund, which supports Church staff, facilities, worship, education, youth activities and other expenses. The Church continues to have adequate cash reserves to meet its financial obligations.

Financial status through April 30, 2022

Total Income:	\$76,931.26
Total expenses:	<u>\$87,603.27</u>
Net Income/deficit:	-\$10,672.01

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL JUNE 14-16, 2022 TREASURE HUNT



Cedar Park First
United Methodist Church

A Spiritual Oasis
Committed to Christ
Committed to Peace
Committed to Service

TREASURE HUNT
VBS 2022

June 14th - 16th, 2022



VOLUNTEERS

- We need your help!
- There are many areas we are looking for your assistance
 - Youth
 - Staff (must be Safe Gathering trained)
 - Setting Up on June 13th, 2022
 - Breaking Down June 17th, 2022
- Signup
 - Via the church website www.cpfumc.org
 - Signup sheet are available



Church Contacts

Find us online at [cpfumc.org](https://www.cpfumc.org)
or call the church Tues-Thurs between 9 and 2 at (512) 335-9540

Want to contact a Church Leader or submit something for a future Newsletter?

Pastor Peter Castles.
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Music Director/Pianist Jodi Blount
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Be sure to put "Newsletter" in the subject for Connections submissions!



CPFUMC Calendar June 2022

Click [here](#) to go to the most up to date online calendar

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
29	30	31	1	2	3	4
HOLY LAND 2022 Trip						
8:30am - In-Person 9:45am - SS in- 10:45am - In-Person	3:45pm - Piano 7:30pm - Centering	9:30am - Morning 10am - Bible Study 10am - HCCM 11am - Prayer Shawl 5:30pm - Piano	6:30pm - Buckles &	3:30pm - Piano	10:30am - Women's 4:15pm - Piano 7:30pm - Alcoholics	1:30pm - Memorial
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
HOLY LAND 2022						
8:30am - In-Person 9:45am - SS in- 10:45am - In-Person	10am - Piano 7pm - TRUSTEES in- 7:30pm - Centering	9:30am - Morning 10am - Bible Study 10am - HCCM 10:30am - Piano 11am - Prayer Shawl 7:30pm - AA Men's	6:30pm - Buckles &	3:30pm - Piano	10:30am - Women's 7:30pm - Alcoholics	9am - Church
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
8:30am - In-Person 9:45am - SS in- 10:45am - In-Person	10am - Piano 6pm - VBS set up 7:30pm - Centering	Treasure Hunt Vacation Bible School 6:00pm to 8:15pm each day 9:30am - Morning 10am - Bible Study 10am - HCCM 10:30am - Piano 11am - Prayer Shawl	9:30am - Mbrshp, 6pm - Vacation Bible	3:30pm - Piano 6pm - BE LIGHT 6pm - Vacation Bible	10:30am - Women's 6pm - VBS break 7:30pm - Alcoholics	10am - PEO Meeting
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
8:30am - In-Person 9:45am - SS in- 10:45am - In-Person	10am - Piano 7:30pm - Centering	9:30am - Morning 10am - Bible Study 10am - HCCM 10:30am - Piano 5:30pm - Prayer 7:30pm - AA Men's		3:30pm - Piano	NEWSLETTER Input 10:30am - Women's 7:30pm - Alcoholics	
26	27	28	29	30	1	2
UM Army						
8:30am - In-Person 9:45am - SS in- 10:45am - In-Person	10am - Piano 6:30pm - Council 7:30pm - Centering	9:30am - Morning 10am - Bible Study 10am - HCCM 10:30am - Piano 11am - Prayer Shawl		3:30pm - Piano	10:30am - Women's 7:30pm - Alcoholics	