



# Cedar Park First United Methodist Church

## HAPPENINGS

CPFUMC  
600 W. Park St.  
Cedar Park Tx 78613

### MARCH 6TH, 2023

IN PERSON WORSHIP 8:30 A.M. AND 10:45 A.M. IN PERSON AND  
**YOUTUBE CHANNEL / FACEBOOK PAGE**



## SUNDAY SCHOOL

**Seekers and Thinkers** are meeting in person at 9:45 am in MMB studying *The History of Christianity II: From the Reformation to the Modern Megachurch*

**Followers of the Word** are meeting in person at 9:45 am in MMB studying the Gospel of John

**Children's Sunday school** meets each Sunday at 9:45 a.m. in the MMB room 3. Contact Amanda Theriot at [Amanda.theriot@icloud.com](mailto:Amanda.theriot@icloud.com)

**Youth Sunday School** meets each Sunday at 9:45 am in the youth room

## UPCOMING EVENTS

- Monday Mar 6<sup>th</sup>** 7:30 Contemplative Prayer in Sanctuary
- Tuesday Mar 7<sup>th</sup>** 9:30 am Service of Morning Prayer in sanctuary  
10:00 am Bible discussion group meets in the Sanctuary and via zoom  
11:00 am Prayer Shawl Ministry meets in the Sanctuary
- Wednesday Mar 8<sup>th</sup>** 8:30 am **Red Shirts** meets at Los Reyes and on Zoom Contact Dave Sidney [dsidney@aceweb.com](mailto:dsidney@aceweb.com) for Zoom meetings and Jim West for in person
- Friday Mar 10<sup>th</sup>** 8:45 am **Red Shirts** meet at Randalls  
10:30 am Women meet for coffee in the Sanctuary
- Sunday Mar. 12<sup>th</sup>** **Daylight Savings Time Returns – Clocks Spring Forward One Hour!!**  
8:30 am WORSHIP with Holy Communion  
9:45 am Sunday school for adults:  
9:45 am Confirmation class  
Seekers and Thinkers are *studying The History of Christianity II: From the Reformation To the Modern Megachurch* (36 lesson series)  
Followers of the Word studying Gospel of John  
9:45 am Sunday school for children in MMB Classroom 3  
10:45 am WORSHIP SERVICE with Holy Communion  
12:00 pm BE LIGHT Youth Fellowship (6<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup>)  
12:00 pm Choir Practice



### CHOIR

- March 12<sup>th</sup> - practice after second service  
March 19<sup>th</sup> - practice after second service  
March 26<sup>th</sup> - practice after second service  
April 2<sup>nd</sup> - Palm Sunday practice after second service

Are you looking for a way to serve the children within our community?



**Event:** Easter Egg Hunt

**When:** Sunday, April 9

**Time:** 9:45 a.m.

**Where:** CPFUMC grounds

**Preparation:** Organize a collection of eggs, candy, and other donated items.

Post invitation in The Happenings, The Connections, Facebook, etc.

Secure volunteer to be the bunny. There is a costume.

Stuff eggs

Day of Hunt – get help to place eggs and oversee the hunt

This is a short-term task, and the event is over in 30 minutes. What could be easier? Please contact Carolyn Smith at [carolynsmith2215@gmail.com](mailto:carolynsmith2215@gmail.com) or 512.970.9087 if you are interested.



## ***PRAYERS AND CELEBRATIONS***

**Kelly Meldau** Prayers for the Life Style Director at Verena, whose dad is in hospice and mom is suffering from dementia. She has just become the sole/activities director which is more work.

**Jorge Soto** Prayers for my sister, Marla Soto, who is having back and feet issues. My mom, Aida Soto, who is having arthritis pain in shoulders.

**Sally Johnson** Prayers for Gerry and Matthew Hiller, my friend from childhood recently lost her life to cancer.

**Beverly Montgomery and Shirley Torres** both who are dealing with cancer.

# YOUTH



## **BE LIGHT YOUTH: We WORSHIP HARD WORK HARD AND PLAY HARD**

We have been building muscles and building community one giant tree branch at a time. We started last month doing spring clean up down in Buda and spent the rest of the month clearing TREES, TREES, and MORE TREES!! IN confirmation we memorized the faith statement: Faith is the firm and certain knowledge of God's benevolence towards us, founded upon the freely given promise of Christ, both revealed to our minds and sealed upon our hearts by the Holy Spirit. We explored what each part means which is now helping us write a faith creed for the Confirmation class 2023. We will keep working on it and use it during confirmation service on Easter Sunday.

Methodist Roots England 2024 is getting more real. We have raised over \$7,700 since September and still have \$32,300 yet before next March 2024. BE LIGHT YOUTH and their parents are showing up and showing up at work days and community events. We had great fun at the Chili-Cook-Off. Bragging rights go to Kevin M. FIRST Place, team Audrey and Paul SECOND Place and Sue C THIRD Place winning by popular vote. The month of March will focus on MULCHING many yards around the greater Austin area (please see info to order yours). Please consider hiring the BE LIGHT YOUTH for tasks you'd normally hire someone for anyway. Every job gets us closer to England.

### **SCHEDULE**

**March 11** : TOBY MAC concert in Cedar Park 7PM

**March 12**: SS work on Faith creeds/ BE LIGHT YOUTH – MULCHING duties  
Spring Break work days TBD/ Austin Zoo

**March 19**: SS work on Faith creeds/ BE LIGHT YOUTH – MULCHING duties

**March 26**: SS work on Faith creeds/ BE LIGHT YOUTH – MULCHING duties

**April 2**: Pies for Palm Sunday – BE LIGHT YOUTH will host pie and coffee during worship as a thank you for all the support they receive from the community

Prep for EASTER Sunrise worship

**April 9:** CONFIRMATION at Sunrise worship for 7 confirmands

**CONFIRMATION Sunday will be EASTER morning, April 2nd, at the Sunrise service at 7am. BE LIGHT YOUTH lead the outdoor worship and we will confirm YOUTH.**

Updated confirmation/Sunday School schedule:

Mar 12 Drum Circle/spring break

**Mar 19 Confirmation/spring break**

Mar 26 Drum circle

**April 2 Palm Sunday EVERYONE prep for Easter**

**April 9 Confirmed at Sunrise worship ALL BE LIGHT YOUTH participate**

# FUNDRAISER

## For Youth England Trip

### \$4000 Needed For Each Traveler



**Whittlesey Hardwood Mulch** (Dark Brown) 2 Cubic Foot Bags



**Black Dyed Mulch** 2 Cubic Foot Bags

**\$5 PER BAG** if picked up at church

**\$6 PER BAG** if delivered to home

Installation of mulch available for an additional donation

**THANKS FOR SUPPORTING BE LIGHT YOUTH!**

## Mulch Fundraiser Order Form

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

### Number BAGS Natural Mulch

Pick up at church (\$5ea) \_\_\_\_\_ or Delivery (\$6ea) \_\_\_\_\_

### Number BAGS Black Mulch

Pick up at church (\$5ea) \_\_\_\_\_ or Delivery (\$6ea) \_\_\_\_\_

**Total amount donated: \$** \_\_\_\_\_

Payment with check made payable CPFUMC please note ENGLAND on check and number of bags purchased or pay on-line:  
<https://secure.myvanco.com/L-Z312/campaign/C-11Y2Q>

PLEASE indicate BOTH the number of bags being purchased and ENGLAND so funds go to the correct account.

**Installation requested?**  YES  NO

Please contact Pastor Suzette to arrange installation date/time at [suzette@cpfumc.org](mailto:suzette@cpfumc.org)

**Hill Country Community Ministries  
(HCCM)  
basket is in the Narthex under the Table**

Donations for the 4th week of February  
Food / Health Care  
Week 203  
YTD 675  
WHAT A GREAT START TO OUR LENT CHALLENGE

**LENT CHALLENGE**

WEEK 1 JELLY 203 POUNDS  
(NOT ALL WAS JELLY BUT A LOT OF IT WAS)  
WEEK 2 CANNED VEGGIES / FRUIT  
WEEK 3 TOMATO SAUCE  
WEEK 4 HEALTH ITEMS  
WEEK 5 DRIED BEANS  
WEEK 6 CANNED MEAT

**NEW INFO ( MONTH OF JANUARY TOTALS)**

7,112 total individuals served  
2,252 total families served  
358 new families served  
1,164 new individuals served

I will update this information as it becomes available from HCCM Just an FYI total individuals served in 2022=70,000 This is a major need in OUR COMMUNITY



## Trustees Report March, 2023

We have been busy at work since the first of the year when this Trustee Group took office. Church exterior has been painted with a new coating that should last 10 years. Metal roof has been power washed and seems in good shape. We cut all the big tree limbs off over the roof before the storm so thankfully we had no roof damage from the ice storm. All the ice tree mess was cleaned up within 5 days after the storm thanks to the good efforts of Jorge Soto (my new Vice Chair of the Trustees) and a priority position with Carlos Cruz, our landscaping and grounds contractor. It did cost \$4,000 but it was 2 truck, 2 trailers, and 100 hours of work by the Cruz Team; and unfortunately our insurance did not recognize wind and ice damage to trees as a covered event. But as an after effect we did complete a major tree trimming which should be good for a couple years.

The front sign has been rebuilt and will never blow over again. All the debris from the old stone sign that fell down has been removed and a new seating area takes it's place. All our church signs were painted as part of the church painting. Next will come mulching of all front beds and the prayer garden, and some new shrubs planted along the front parking lot. The grounds are now in very good shape.

We did loose 3 pole lights during the storm which has temporarily make our parking lots dark at night. PEC owns these structures and has promised to repair them within the next two weeks.

Regards,

Brad Lienhart  
Chair CPFUMC Trustees

### Church Finance Report

The Church's operating fund status through January 31, 2023 is summarized below. Financially we have started the year very strong with income running a little above expectations. Expenses are running below budgeted estimates as well. As a result the Church had positive financial results for January. However, expenditures will increase in the coming months as we begin paying our apportionments and other church activities pick up. Your continued support for the Church is needed and appreciated.

#### Financial status through January 31, 2023

|                       |                     |
|-----------------------|---------------------|
| Total Income:         | \$ 24,696.28        |
| Total expenses:       | <u>\$ 20,204.30</u> |
| Net Income/(deficit): | \$ 4,491.98         |

# Review Five Red Flags That Signal a Scam

The most common scams will target you through fake emails, text messages, voice calls, letters or even someone who unexpectedly shows up at your front door. **Review all five scenarios for important red flags that could signal a scam.**

## 1. You're contacted unexpectedly

**Watch for:** A phone call, email, text, direct message or pop-up with a request for personal information or money.

**Scammers will:**

- Contact you out of the blue and claim there's an issue that needs immediate attention
- Ask for a favor, personal details, remote access to your devices or money.
- Try to confirm your identity with a verification code they send you – even though they called you.
- Insist you download apps or click links to “fix” issues or confirm information.

**Remember:** Scammers use convincing stories. They can use fake email addresses and Caller ID information – don't trust them.

Make sure you have verified the person who has contacted you before acting on any request. **Never click a link or download an attachment** from someone you don't know.

Bank of America will never text, email or call you asking for personal or account information. If someone reaches out and asks for it, it's a scam.

## 2. The communication plays with your emotions and pressures you to act immediately

**Watch for:** An alarming phone call, email or text. Someone is indicating there's a problem with your account, an issue with a delivery, an emergency with a loved one or product scarcity.

**Scammers will:**

1. Pretend to be a loved one who needs help
2. Pose as an employee from a familiar organization and say there's a problem that needs immediate attention
3. Disguise themselves as a friend or love interest, even though they've never met you
4. Claim to need money for emergencies, account problems, bills or travel
5. Insist you keep quiet about the situation
6. Tell you to not trust Bank of America or insist you respond to questions untruthfully.

**Remember:** Scammers use emotional triggers, like love, compassion, exhilaration or fear, to trick you into taking action. Do not act unless you have verified the person who has contacted you and the story or request

is legitimate.

### 3. You're asked to pay in an unusual way

**Watch for:** A request for money. You may be directed to the nearest post office or a wire transfer service. Or, asked for bank transfers, pre-loaded debit cards, gift cards or virtual currency such as Bitcoin. They may send you a check and ask you to deposit it and use the deposited funds to do transactions.

**Scammers will:**

- Pressure you to pay with prepaid debit or gift card codes, wires, bank transfers or digital currency
- Send you a check for more than what is owed and tell you give the extra to someone else
- Have a reason for why you can't keep all the money

**Remember:** Many of these forms of payments are like cash and nearly impossible to trace or get back. Be wary when someone says you have to pay in unusual ways. Always verify who you're sending money to before you send it. Bank of America will never ask you to transfer money to anyone, including yourself, and we will never ask you to transfer money because we detected fraud on your account.

By law, banks must make deposited funds available quickly. The bank may make funds available, but that does not mean the check has cleared the paying bank or may not be returned unpaid as fraudulent at a later date. By the time the check is discovered to be fraudulent, the scammer has the money you sent and you may owe money to the bank for that check.

### 4. You're asked for personal information

**Watch for:** An unexpected phone call, email, text, direct message or pop-up with a request for personal information. This may be an account verification code, bank account number, PIN or social security number.

**Scammers will:**

- Contact you out of the blue
- Ask you to click links or open attachments to confirm your identity
- Coach you through steps to complete an action, like changing your password
- Use pop-ups on your computer or mobile device that ask you to allow software to run
- Provide a callback number or tell you to trust Caller ID when you question them
- Break into your mailbox to steal mail, especially checks
- Take you to a website that looks legitimate and asks for your login information

**Remember:** When in doubt, don't give it out. Never share account verification codes or personal information unless you've contacted the company through a verified method. Never provide strangers remote access to your computer.

Bank of America will never text, email or call you asking for an authorization code. If someone reaches out and asks for it, it's a scam.

## **5. It seems too good to be true**

**Watch for:** An offer for free products or a 'get rich quick' opportunity. Or a claim you won a contest you didn't enter.

### **Scammers will:**

- Dangle bait such as a prize, money, shopping spree or products for difficult-to-cure conditions
- Guarantee success or promise unusually high returns
- Offer to pay full price, shipping or other costs
- Ask you to deposit a check and use all or part of the money to buy things or send to someone else
- Insist you pay a small fee in return for something
- Not let you enter a rental property before paying a deposit

**Remember:** If something sounds too good to be true, it likely is. Beware of deeply discounted prices, offers of free vacations, and winnings for a contest you never entered. Never cash a check for someone you don't know.

**CPFUMC Ministries Brochure has been prepared. Hardcopy is available on the desk in the Narthex.**

For our weekly email publication *Happenings*, please send input to Stephanie Talley at [office@cpfumc.org](mailto:office@cpfumc.org)