

April 2017



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

Cedar Park First United Methodist Church

Connections

Newsletter

Trustees Make AV Improvements

Submitted by Neil Howard



In recent weeks our Trustees have made a couple of Audio-Visual improvements, which make regular events at church even more effective. In response to requests from Sunday school classes and our inability to

utilize some ancient, large CRT type TVs with more modern media player equipment, we purchased a 48-inch flat panel TV. The original thought was to install this screen on a table or a wall in the Multi-Ministries Building conference room but following

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Parking Lot Funding Campaign Comes to Successful Close

Submitted by Steve Howard



Our church can celebrate another important milestone with the formal close of fundraising for parking lot reconstruction and expansion. The campaign to obtain pledges for the parking lot project began in 2015 and came to a formal end on February 28, 2017.

When the church initiated the campaign we had a goal of obtaining about 30 pledges that would raise between \$75,000 and \$90,000 toward project costs. The balance of the \$280,000 construction cost would be from funds borrowed from the Texas Methodist Foundation.

However, the church response greatly exceeded all of our initial goals--we received 48 pledges totaling \$134,318.81. Our hope was that if we met 95% of the pledged goal we would minimize borrowing, extend our current loan and keep monthly loan

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JESUS ROCK STAR CORNER

Submitted by Carolyn Smith

The Jesus Rock Stars have been discussing Lent. We have shared with each other how we talk to God. Our younger class has been studying parables and how they encourage us to talk with and listen to God through out our daily lives.



But when we hear God's words we grow full and tall.



Josie, Tony, James, and Kaitlyn show how the choking weeds keep them from hearing God's words and learning how he wants us to live.

With Mr. Neil's help the older class worked on the ABC of the Old Testament song. Using the song, makes pronouncing the names easier!



Ashlyn and Gwen practice the names of the books.



Duncan, Kayla, Gwen, and Abigail are putting movements to the song.

The girls have asked to perform sometime the song for the congregation. Stay tune for the performance date!

Ms. Karen Goodman visited our class to help us study how to pray. We learned God is always listening. We learned there is no wrong way to pray. Thanks Ms. Karen!

We all have things to share about how faith with others. If you would like to share with our class, please let us know. We would love to have you visit.

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We use visualizations to help us understand. Recently we use a visualization of how praying helps us feel warm inside. Here we watched as our prayers grow and over flow our cups. This is just like the way praying makes us feel inside. If we feel this warm, God must be really warm inside with prayers from so many people.

New Policy on the Use of Photos & Names in Church Publications

A policy has been created and is being publicized to remove any doubt about how photos, videos, and names are used in CPFUMC publications. Our communications and Web team drafted the policy. At our March Church Council meeting, the Church Council discussed and made an extensive markup of the draft, approving the policy as follows:

CPFUMC Policy on the Use of Photos & Names in Church Publications

1. Photos, videos and full names of adults may be used in church publications (website, Happenings weekly email publication, Connections newsletter, Facebook, Twitter, etc.), where useful and pertinent, to publicize church events, unless the adult specifically requests an exception.
2. Photos, videos and first names only of children may be used in church publications (website, Happenings weekly email publication, Connections newsletter, Facebook, Twitter, etc.), where useful and pertinent, to publicize church events, unless the child's parent or legal guardian specifically requests an exception.
3. We will not publish the roster of members contact information online unless it is in a special secure area of our website which requires member login. (Currently this does not exist).
4. Exceptions to this policy may be requested on the church website.

Our newsletter, *Connections*, our weekly e-mail report, *Happenings*, and our website, cpfumc.org, are the primary publications affected by this policy. Anyone wishing to request an exception and opt-out of this policy for themselves or their minor children may do so on the church website at <https://cpfumc.org/opt-out-declaration/>.

Be The Church

Submitted by Bonnie How

Mark your calendar for April 23! We are partnering with several other local churches to worship together and then work on projects in the community. We are going to actively "Be the Church", serving God and neighbor.

We will gather together for worship at Heritage Oak Park in Cedar Park. From there, we will disperse to our work sites. Volunteers will sign up online to the project of their choice. Options include assembling flood buckets, neighborhood park clean up followed by a neighborhood cookout, organizing clothing at a women's shelter, hosting an ice cream social and much more. There is a project that is just perfect for you and your family.

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payments at our current level.

Not only did our pledges exceed initial goals, but actual donations as of February 28, 2017 were \$136,658.85, 102% of the pledged amount. Most of those making pledges met or exceeded their pledged amount and 9 persons who did not pledge made a donation to the parking lot project.

Our church Financial Secretary, Bob Packard, believes that "the key to success was prayer." He still has the key given to members to kick-off the fundraising campaign.

The completion of this campaign is another example of this congregation's generosity and the faith it has in Cedar Park First UMC's future.



A Child's Haven Happenings

Submitted by Lesley Foyt

March was an exciting month filled with many activities. We had our annual Dr. Seuss Day and the kids ate a special Cat in the Hat snack, played games and created a special "Seussy" art project. The kids loved learning all about dinosaurs and loved dancing to the "We are the Dinosaurs" song. We ended the month by learning about baby animals. We will be taking a field trip on April 6th to visit the Austin Nature and Science Center.

Our Fruit of the Spirit this month was gentleness. Philippians 4:5 says "Let your gentleness be evident to all." This month the children showed gentleness by practicing our class and playground rule of gentle touches for their friends. They also listened to bible stories about how Jesus treated others with gentleness and respect. The Fruit of the Spirit in April will be goodness.

On April 29th A Child's Haven will be holding our Spring Sock-Hop Fundraiser. There will be a light dinner, silent auction and entertainment by an Elvis impersonator! We will also have fun things for kids like face painting, balloon animals, a bouncy house and more! Tickets are \$10.00 per adult and children are free. Tickets are available for purchase in the office. Proceeds will benefit our scholarship fund as well as educational enrichment activities. We hope you can join us for an evening of fun and fellowship.

The Easter Bunny is coming!

He's hop, hop, hopping to the Cedar Park First United Methodist Church.

All children are invited to come on Easter Sunday, April 16 at 9:30am to see what the Easter Bunny has brought just for them.



The Easter Bunny is asking for your help. Individually wrapped candies are needed, please drop them off in the narthex. If shopping is not on your schedule cash or checks will also be accepted, please drop them in the offering plate.



AV UPGRADES continued from page 1

discussion, it was decided to also purchase a rolling cart which would allow this TV to be used anywhere the cart could be easily rolled. The rolling cart selected has two shelves to accommodate a DVD player and a VHS cassette player. The rolling cart also has a power strip to connect to the TV and players, so only a single power connection to a wall outlet is required to get things going. This TV on the rolling cart has already been used for a memorial service, the Sunday adult book discussion class, and a recent Child's Haven teachers meeting. Total cost for this AV improvement was \$571.33



The TV cart combo was also paired with an Internet-connected computer for the March Church Council meeting. This allowed the Church Council to group-edit the policy on use of photos and names in church publications and it significantly reduced the amount of paper copying. The colorful cloth bag attached to the TV rolling cart was custom-made by Jane Howard. This bag accommodates all of the remotes and



iPhone/iPad adapters for the AV equipment. Nice job, Jane! She can sew *anything!*

In the future we plan to add a very small computer device to this TV cart. Along with a wireless keyboard and mouse, this will allow the TV cart to be a self-contained AV resource with WiFi Internet access. Yeah! We've made it to the 21st century!

The Trustees did not want to leave the youth of our congregation out of the AV improvement activity, so they connected a small form factor computer to the 50-inch TV added in 2015 in the Youth Room. This computer is a used Dell Optiplex 790 business class machine running



Windows 10 Professional. It is very similar in size to the computers in the church office. It provides an HDMI connection to the youth room TV. Paired with a wireless keyboard and mouse, this setup

allows full Internet access in the Youth room. This improvement expands on the CPFUMC Internet project begun in 2014 when broadband hardwired and WiFi Internet access were first provided in the Sanctuary building. This computer, wireless keyboard and mouse were donated.

If you are upgrading your home flat panel TV to 4K or a larger size model, you might consider donating your old 55" or greater TV to the church. Please let any of the Trustees know. We are still planning to eventually move the whiteboard and mount a large screen TV on the north wall of the Multi Ministries Building conference room for use during the numerous meetings and classes that take place in that large room.



COME SHOW US YOUR GIFT

All children from Pre-K through 5th grade
are invited to

EMPOWER

Saturday, April 22, 2016
6pm to 10pm

Cedar Park First United Methodist Church

God has given you talents to share.
You will have up to 5 minutes
on stage to perform, sing, dance,
demonstrate, reading, or anything
you would like to share.



Light snacks will be served along with a movie immediately following
the individual performances.

Looking forward to seeing you. If you have any questions please contact

Carolyn Smith

Amanda Theriot

Neil Howard

EMPOWER REGISTRATION

Child's name: _____ DOB: ____/____/____ Grade: _____
Child's name: _____ DOB: ____/____/____ Grade: _____
Child's name: _____ DOB: ____/____/____ Grade: _____
Parent/Guardian: _____ Phone: _____
Parent/Guardian: _____ Phone: _____
Address: _____

Other important information we should know about your student:

Medications needed during the lock-in, allergies, etc.

I (we) understand that our child may be photographed or videotaped during activities and that these photos/videos may be posted to our website, cpfumc.org. By signing this form I acknowledge, on behalf of my(our) child(ren), I assume the risk and promise to release, forever discharge and hold harmless Cedar Park First United Methodist Church, it's directors, staff and volunteer leaders from any and all liability for personal injury or sickness and damage to personal or public property which might result from my(our) child(ren)'s participation in any and all EMPOWER activities. This covenant to hold harmless extends to my(our) child(ren)'s participation in any and all events and activities.

By signing this form, I (we) acknowledge I (we) are the parent(s) or legal guardian(s) of the child(ren) listed above and grant my(our) permission for him/her to participate fully in EMPOWER mini lock-in.

Signature

Date



Life Bridge Job Corps Annual Job Fair




Friday April 28, 2017
9:00am to 1:00pm
In the Gym.

1150 S Bell Blvd.
Cedar Park, TX 78613

Come Dressed for success and
bring copies of your resume.

Life Bridge will host employers
from all over our community that
are ready to hire.

Save the Date!
**Be the Church Sunday is on
April 23rd!**

We will have a few options including assembling flood buckets at the church, and adopting a park (with a family picnic to follow). See page 3 for more information.

Especially for Parents

Cedar Park FUMC, A Child's Haven and Leander ISD are partnering to offer some great talks for parents.

Wed., April 5th, at 6:30pm, Danielle Gary of Leander ISD will present "Creating a Culture of Kindness to Address Bullying," empowering both parents and students. Ms. Gary is involved in the district in their anti-bullying campaign "It's Your Choice". This talk is appropriate for families, especially those with tweens and teens! Pizza will be provided.

Wed., May 3rd at 9:15am, Bonnie Hahn from the "Parents as Teachers" program will present a free program focused on helping families build strong foundations for academic success. She is a great speaker, and this program is also appropriate for expecting parents.

Please invite your friends and family to join us! There is a link on our website for the first event - please RSVP. Look for the next *evite* about a month before each upcoming event.



Creating a Culture of Kindness

Host: A Child's Haven, a ministry of Cedar Park FUMC 512-335-9540

When: Wednesday, April 5 at 6:30 PM

Where: Cedar Park First United Methodist Church 600 West Park St. Cedar Park, TX

CPFUMC April 2017

See full calendar online at
<https://cpfumc.org/find-an-event/>

Cedar Park First United Methodist Church, CARE Calendar, Child's Haven Events, Choir, CP1UMC Youth, Apr 2017 (Central Time)
 Other Groups, Pumpkin Patch, SCOUTS, United Methodist Men, United Methodist Women

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
26 8:30am - Worship 9:45am - Sunday 10:45am - Worship 6 pm - Youth @	27 9 am - Child's Haven 10am - Talley Piano 2pm - ESL - GED @ 6pm - BScouts @ 7 pm - Wolf Den 158	28 9 am - Child's Haven 9:15am - Tues 10 am - Bible Study 3pm - Talley Piano 6:30pm - BS Pack	29 9 am - Child's Haven 11:30am - Talley 1 pm - Easy Line 5pm - Soup/Stew 7 pm - Bible Study -	30 9 am - Child's Haven 10:15am - Disciple 2pm - Talley Piano 6:30pm - Buckles 7 pm - Webelos 1	31 9 am - ESL - GED @ 5pm - CP Fiesta 6:30pm - Alcoholics	1 11 am - Carver
2 8:30am - Worship 9:45am - Sunday 10:45am - Worship 2 pm - Crop Walk 6 pm - Youth @	3 9 am - Child's Haven 10 am - Talley Piano 2pm - ESL - GED @ 6:30pm - COUNCIL 7:30pm - Contempla	4 9 am - Child's Haven 9:15am - Tues 10 am - Bible Study 3pm - Talley Piano 6:30pm - Boy Scouts	5 9 am - Child's Haven 11:30am - Talley 1 pm - Easy Line 5:30pm - LISD 7 pm - Bible Study -	6 9 am - Child's Haven 10:15am - Disciple 2pm - Talley Piano 6:30pm - Buckles	7 9 am - ESL - GED @ 5pm - CP Fiesta 6:30pm - Alcoholics	8 9 am - UMW Meets- 9 am - Welcoming
9 PALM SUNDAY 8:30am - Worship 9:45am - Sunday 10:45am - Worship 6 pm - Youth @	10 HOLY WEEK 9 am - Child's Haven 10 am - Talley Piano 2pm - ESL - GED @ 6:30pm - FINANCE	11 HOLY WEEK 9 am - Child's Haven 9:15am - Tues 10 am - Bible Study 3pm - Talley Piano	12 HOLY WEEK 9 am - Child's Haven 11:30am - Talley 1 pm - Easy Line 7 pm - Bible Study -	13 HOLY WEEK 9 am - Child's Haven 10:15am - Disciple 2pm - Talley Piano 4pm - GS Daisy	14 HOLY WEEK 9 am - ESL - GED @ 5pm - CP Fiesta 6:30pm - Alcoholics 7 pm - WORSHIP	15 HOLY WEEK
16 EASTER 8:30am - Worship 9:45am - Sunday 10:45am - Worship 3:30pm - Worship @	17 9 am - Child's Haven 10 am - Talley Piano 2pm - ESL - GED @ 6 pm - BScouts @ 6:30pm - TRUSTEES	18 9 am - Child's Haven 9:15am - Tues 10 am - Bible Study 3pm - Talley Piano 6:30pm - GS #2101	19 9 am - Child's Haven 9:30am - Mbrship 11:30am - Talley 1 pm - Easy Line 6 pm - Brownie	20 9 am - Child's Haven 10:15am - Disciple 2pm - Talley Piano 6:30pm - Buckles	21 NEWSLETTER Input 9 am - ESL - GED @ 5pm - CP Fiesta 6:30pm - Alcoholics	22 8 am - Open Doors @ 6 pm - EMPOWER @
23 Be the Church 8:30am - Worship 9:45am - Sunday 10:45am - Worship	24 9 am - Child's Haven 10 am - Talley Piano 2pm - ESL - GED @ 7:30pm - Contempla	25 9 am - Child's Haven 9:15am - Tues 10 am - Bible Study 3pm - Talley Piano	26 9 am - Child's Haven 11:30am - Talley 1 pm - Easy Line 3pm - Talley Piano	27 9 am - Child's Haven 10:15am - Disciple 2pm - Talley Piano 4pm - GS Daisy	28 9 am - ESL - GED @ 5pm - CP Fiesta 6:30pm - Alcoholics	29 9 am - Congregation 5pm - Child's Haven
30 8:30am - Worship 9:45am - Sunday 10:45am - Worship 6 pm - Youth @	1 9 am - Child's Haven 10 am - Talley Piano 2pm - ESL - GED @ 6:30pm - COUNCIL	2 9 am - Child's Haven 9:15am - Tues 10 am - Bible Study 11:30am - Childs	3 9 am - Child's Haven 11:30am - Talley 1 pm - Easy Line	4 9 am - Child's Haven 10:15am - Disciple 2pm - Talley Piano 6:30pm - Buckles	5 5pm - CP Fiesta 6:30pm - Alcoholics	6 8:30am - Cub Scout