



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

Cedar Park First United Methodist Church

Connections

Newsletter

Isaac/Ishmael Dialogues

Submitted by Steve Howard

This August, Cedar Park First United Methodist Church (CPFUMC) hosted members from the Brushy Creek Islamic Center for a series of dialogues on stories from the Bible and Quran. On average fifty members from the two congregations attended these lively discussions.

At each session, Pastor Peter and Pastor



Bonnie presented stories from the Bible and Sheik Yassir Fazaga, imam for the Islamic Center, presented stories from the Quran. Questions and discussion followed the presentations.

These dialogues were not attempts to convert, but were grounded in principles that included listening carefully, mutual respect, civil dialogue, and creating understanding. The dialogues revealed principles and stories that Islam and

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The Pumpkins are Coming!

Submitted by Pastor Bonnie How



This year marks the 21st annual Cedar Patch FUMC Pumpkin Patch! What an incredible ministry. Our patch has become a favorite autumn tradition for many, many families in our community. One family has been bringing their family since the very first year. They began with their own children and now are bringing their grandchildren. It's fun to see them all scramble out of their cars, gathering together for photos and then visiting in the patch while the kids pick out their favorites.

Perhaps one of the most fun parts of the

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JESUS ROCK STAR CORNER

Submitted by Carolyn Smith

The Jesus Rock Stars have completed our summer creativity session. We discussed some of the miracles of Jesus and played games using our drawing talents. We made crafts showing our love for Jesus.



Ms. Amanda and Mr. Mark have been introducing the younger class to the miracles of Peter. Ask them about the healing of the lame and Tabitha.

The older class is starting to prepare for the Christmas Eve service. We have found a wonderful skit. You will hear about the miracle, which came that night. We hope all will attend to watch their performance.

If you are interested in helping with the Christmas Eve production, your help is needed. The younger children will be leading us in song. If you feel this is a place where your talent would be helpful, please see Carolyn Smith.



Speaking of talents, our next **EMPOWER** is Saturday, October 14th from 6:00pm to 9:30pm in the Outdoor Chapel, weather permitting (inside if needed). This is a time when all elementary age children are invited to attend. Each child will be given 5 minutes to demonstrate a talent God has given them. This can be anything from dance, singing, demonstration, exhibition, or whatever they choose. It is a

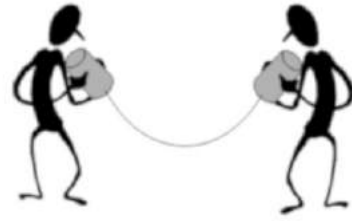


time when they are to boast about their talent. This is not mandatory but we do encourage all children to participate.

After the talent time we will enjoy group games and a movie. The outdoor chapel does not have

lighting so we ask the children to bring a flashlight, blanket, pillow, etc.

Invite your friends. All are welcome. Participation forms are available on the church website or at the front desk.



Want to get in touch with a Church Leader or are you thinking of submitting something for a future Newsletter?

Here are some contacts:

Pastor Peter Castles peter@cpfumc.org

Assoc. Pastor/Youth Dir. Bonnie How
bonnie@cpfumc.org

Music Director/Pianist Jodi Blount
jodi_blount@hotmail.com

Children's Haven Director Lesley Foyt
director@childshaven.net

Newsletter Editor Jill Lundstrom
lund121@me.com

You can also find us online at cpfumc.org
or call the church Tues-Thurs between 9 and
2 at this phone number:
(512) 335-9540



A Child's Haven Happenings

Submitted by Lesley Foyt

A Child's Haven had a great start to the new school year! The children have done an excellent job of settling back into the school routine. It is so nice to see so many smiling faces again! We kicked off our new Kinder Bridge class this year,

and were blessed to welcome many new families to our school. During September the kids learned about the five senses. They also learned about their classmates and families with our All About Me week. We had our annual Coffee with the Pastors where parents were able to visit with Pastors Bonnie and Peter. This always is such a nice time of fellowship for everyone.

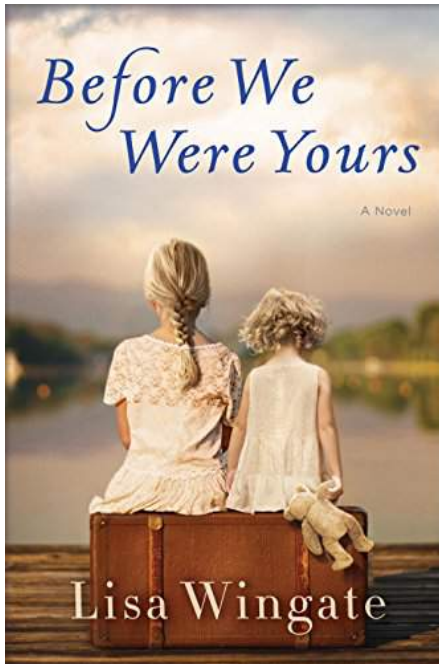
Our Fruit of the Spirit this month was Kindness. Ephesians 4:2 says: "Be kind and compassionate to one another..." Throughout the month teachers read bible stories and talked about God's kindness and love for all people and how we can be more like him. I saw many instances of children showing kindness to their new friends and teachers, including giving hugs and using kind words to each other. The Fruit of the Spirit for next month will be Patience.

In October we will be having our garage sale fundraiser on the 28th starting at 8:00 am and will begin accepting donations on October 16th. We had a very successful sale last year and are looking forward to another one!

Blessings,
Lesley

Enjoy reading Fiction?

If so, please take a look at what we have in store...



Monday, October 2, 2017 at 6:30 p.m.

Novel: Before We Were Yours by Lisa Wingate

Genre: Blend of contemporary and historical storylines

About the novel...Before We Were Yours is based upon the Tennessee Children's Home Society scandal that happened in the 30's and 40's. Through this work of fiction, learn more about the far reach impact on the children and adults involved.

Coming in 2018...

Wednesday, January 10, 2018

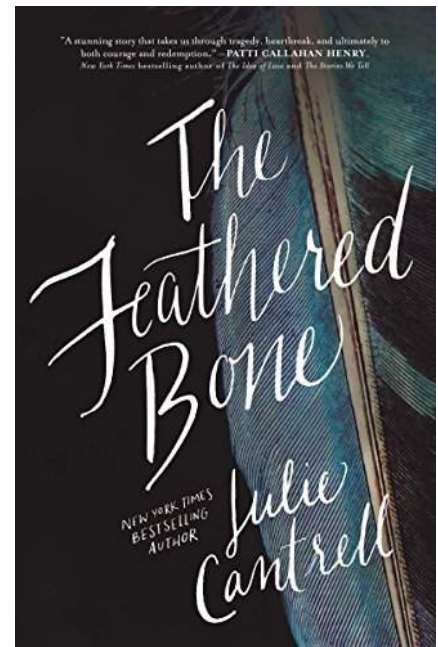
at 6:30 p.m.

Novel: The Feathered Bone by

Julie Cantrell

Genre: General Fiction

Discussion Leader: Author Julie Cantrell

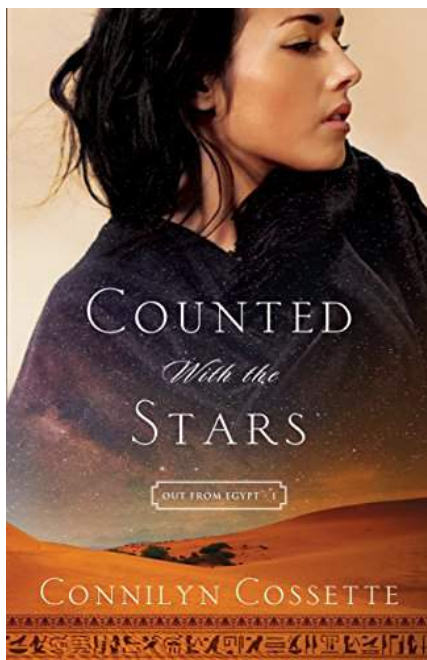


Wednesday, March 7, 2018 at 6:30 p.m.

Novel: Counted With the Stars by Connilyn Cossette

Genre: Biblical Fiction

Discussion Leader: Author Connilyn Cossette



Wednesday, October 3, 2018 at 6:30 p.m.

Novels: Dear Mr Knightly by Katherine Reay

Lizzy and Jane by Katherine Reay

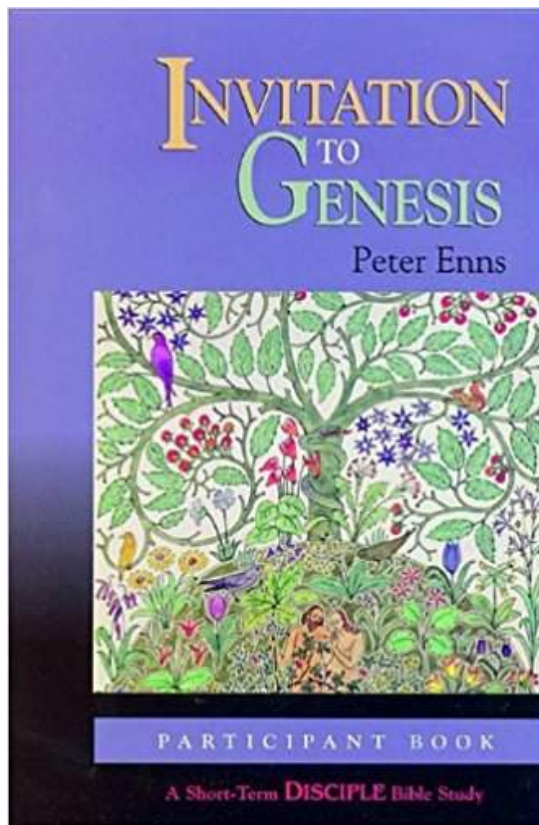
The Bronte Plot by Katherine Reay

The Austen Escape by Katherine Reay

Genre: General Fiction

Discussion Leader: Katherine Reay

We hope to see you at one or all of these discussions!



Short-Term Disciple Bible Study on Genesis to be Offered

Pastor Peter will be leading a 10-session Disciple Bible Study on the book of Genesis. This study will take persons into the rich tapestry of Genesis to explore the interaction between God and some very human people. The best-known stories of Creation, Noah, Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, and Joseph will be considered.

The Bible will serve as the primary text in this study, but a Participant Guide will also be utilized. Preparation on the part of participants is expected: two chapters of Genesis will be read each week, as well as a segment of the Participant Guide. The Participant Guide is also used for note taking and responding to reflection questions that follow each lesson.

After preparation during the week, participants will gather each Thursday from 10:15am until noon for small group discussion and video presentations by scholars, who will help unpack the meaning and the mystery in the stories. Participants for this Invitation to Genesis do not have to have an in-depth knowledge of the Bible to enjoy and benefit from participation.

If you are interested in attending this study, a sign-up sheet is available in the Sanctuary Lobby. The cost of the study is \$20, which covers the cost of the Participation Guide. The class begins October 5 and runs through December 8. Please consider taking part in this exciting journey through Genesis.



Have you been working on your chili recipe? I am what I call a dump cook. When you ask me for a recipe I am flattered and would love to share. Unfortunately, when asked how much of an ingredient I must hesitate because I seldom measure anything. I have made several recipes, each time measuring ingredients. I even tried chicken chili but something just didn't look right. What kind of chilies have you tried?

If you are interested in participating in the contest, please advise Carolyn Smith. Registration forms are not required.

There will be judging, tasting, and most important a time to get to know your fellow church members.

Do you remember the game show "Win, Lose or Draw" from the late 1980s? This is a game of teams who compete by drawing out phrases. One team member draws while the other members of the team guess the phrase.

Bringing a pot of chili is not mandatory for your attendance. All are welcome and we hope you will attend.

Are You a Caregiver Looking for Guidance?

Discover Resources at This **FREE** Workshop Series!

Powerful Tools FOR Caregivers

Cedar Park First United Methodist Church

October 4, 11, 18 November 1, 8, 15

6:30pm – 8pm

This series of six classes is designed to empower family caregivers of older adults to take better care of themselves. The tools learned from **Powerful Tools for Caregivers** benefit caregivers by developing a wealth of self-care strategies to better handle the unique challenges faced by family caregivers. The evidence-based curriculum of **Powerful Tools for Caregivers** was developed by Dr. Kate Lorig and her colleagues at Stanford University and has benefited more than 80,000 caregivers nation-wide.

You Will Learn To:

- Identify and reduce personal stress
- Communicate feelings, needs, and concerns
- Take care of you
- Communicate more effectively during challenging situations

Who Should Attend? ANYONE:

- Caring for a loved one
- Looking for caregiving resources and needing caregiving guidance
- Wanting to master caregiving decisions and learn from emotions



CAREGIVERU
A Program of AGE of Central Texas

CaregiverU funding provided
through a generous grant from
StDavid's
FOUNDATION

Class Schedules & More Information: www.CaregiverUcentx.org

Who do you say that I am? Jesus asked.

Jesus is everything.

The Son of God. The Savior of All of God's children!

Friend. Gentle Healer. Steadfast Lover.

Son of God. Savior of mankind.

The father of all creation.

Jesus is my Savior and Master of Everything.

My savior. Son of the Lord.

Jesus is our Father and Lord.

Jesus is God in human form, part of the Trinity. The hope for mankind.

A giver of hope and forgiveness a healer, a guiding presence.

A philosopher, a leader. One who cares for me. He gives me comfort during my trying times.

My grandpa and grandma Casey
Love, Grace, Mercy.

Love

The spirit of love, joy and life. The way to truth and light. The way to the best life we could ever have together.

Lord, Savior, Teacher and The Way.

He comforts me.

Jesus is Love, Peace, Comfort, Faith, and Healer.

Jesus is a three dimensional holograph of the pure spirit of God who came to Earth to transform the world for the better one person at a time with inclusion in the family of faith.

The Messiah, Son of God. My Savior, Redeemer and Friend.

The creator of earth and everyone's father. Someone who forgives all at sometime.

Jesus is the Son of God who came to save me and all who believe in Him.

A guy that died for us and loves us.

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Christianity share, as well as differences.

As Sheik Fazaga explained, for Muslims the Quran is the word of Allah, Arabic for God. It addresses the nature of God, messengers of God, the hereafter, things that are permitted and things not permitted and directs humanity to a better relationship with God. Islam recognizes Adam, Moses, Abraham and Jesus as well as the Prophet Mohammed as messengers of God. In Islam salvation comes from personal responsibility accompanied by God's acceptance and mercy. Islam does not fully share the Christian concept of God's grace, His unmerited love and forgiveness.

While many Old Testament stories exist in both the Bible and Quran there are differences. Christian theology represents the Adam and Eve story as the basis for original sin. The Quran does not have a similar understanding. In its telling, Adam and Eve are forgiven and their sin did not affect future generations.

The story of Cain and Abel are virtually the same in the Bible and Quran. However, in the Hebrew scriptures, Abel was favored by God due to his more acceptable sacrifice. In the Quran, Abel was favored because he was virtuous and Cain was wicked. In the Hebrew scriptures Noah was chosen because he was an upright man and the entire earth was destroyed by flood due to mankind's wickedness. In the Quran, Noah was presented as a believer chosen to warn people to believe. When they did not, God caused the flood, but not of the entire world.

These dialogues are consistent with a resolution passed at the 2016 United Methodist Church General Conference. The resolution called upon Christians to initiate and promote better relationships between Christians and Muslims on the basis of informed understanding, critical appreciation, and balanced perspective of one another's basic beliefs. It urged local congregations and United Methodist agencies to develop ongoing relationships with Muslims and their respective organizations, including conversations, programs, and dialogues leading to better understanding and areas of



mutual cooperation.

At these dialogues, CPFUMC and members of the Brushy Creek Islamic Center displayed great openness and hospitality to each other. Due to the interest, a series of evening dialogues will be held in October and November. I encourage you to look for announcement of specific dates, time and location. Our Church's mission includes saying we are committed to peace. Interfaith dialogues are an excellent way to promote peace and mutual respect in these complicated times.

PUMPKINS cont. from p. 1

patch is unloading the truck. It sounds strange but when everyone shows up, with gloves and their work clothes, and gets busy moving pumpkins down the line of volunteers, something magical happens. People visit with each other, and friendships deepen. Like an old-fashioned barn raising, we come together to git'er done and it's a blessed time. Yes, the work is hard but our spirits are always high.

It's always fun to come to the patch and see the smiling faces of our volunteers. Each member of the church takes a shift or two or five and we appreciate your help so much! Volunteer hosts like you make the difference for each of our guests.

Fall Fun Fest will take place on Saturday, October 28th from 10am until 2pm. We will have games, a bounce house, hot dogs and refreshments, face painting and pumpkin chuckin'! Child's Haven will also be having their garage sale. It's a great time to visit and play. Again, bring lawn chairs if you'd like and enjoy the festivities! Kids are encouraged to wear their costumes and bring their trick or treat bags.



October 8-ish * Pumpkins are scheduled to arrive! Come help us unload!
October 28th * Fall Fun Fest 10am-2pm



CPFUMC October 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, Oct 2017 (Central Time)
 Other Groups, Pumpkin Patch, SCOUTS, United Methodist Men, United Methodist Women

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 World Wide 8:30am - Worship 9:45am - Sunday 10:45am - Worship 1 pm - Youth @	2 2pm - ESL - GED @ 2:30pm - Talley 6:30pm - Bear Den 6:30pm - TRUSTEES 7:30pm - Contempla	3 9:30am - Morning 10am - Bible Study 12:30pm - Talley 6:30pm - Alpha @ 6:30pm - Book Club 7:30pm - AA Men's	4 1pm - Easy Line 1pm - Talley Piano 6pm - CaregiverU -	5 10:15am - Disciple 1pm - Talley Piano 6:30pm - Buckles	6 9am - ESL/GED @ 6:30pm - Alcoholics	7
8 8:30am - Worship 9:45am - Sunday 10:45am - Worship 1 pm - Youth @ 2 pm - Pumpkins	9 2pm - ESL - GED @ 2:30pm - Talley 6:30pm - FINANCE 7:30pm - Contempla	10 9:30am - Morning 10am - Bible Study 12:30pm - Talley 3:30pm - Brownie 6:30pm - Alpha @ 7:30pm - AA Men's	11 1pm - Easy Line 1pm - Talley Piano 6pm - CaregiverU -	12 10:15am - Disciple 1pm - Talley Piano 5:30pm - GS Troop 6:30pm - Buckles	13 9am - ESL/GED @ 6:30pm - Alcoholics	14 9am - UMW Meets 6pm - EMPOWER @
15 8:30am - Worship 9:45am - Sunday 10:45am - Worship 1 pm - Youth @ 3:30pm - Worship @	16 2pm - ESL - GED @ 2:30pm - Talley 6:30pm - Bear Den 6:30pm - COUNCIL 7:30pm - Contempla	17 9:30am - Morning 10am - Bible Study 12:30pm - Talley 6:30pm - Alpha @ 7 pm - Girl Scout 7:30pm - AA Men's	18 9:30am - Mbrship 1pm - Easy Line 1pm - Talley Piano 6pm - CaregiverU -	19 Rio TX UMW Annual 10:15am - Disciple 1pm - Talley Piano 5:30pm - GS Troop 6:30pm - Buckles	20 NEWSLETTER Input Rio TX UMW Annual 9am - ESL/GED @ 6:30pm - Alcoholics	21 Rio TX UMW Annual
22 Rio TX UMW Annual 8:30am - Worship 9:45am - Sunday 10:45am - Worship 12pm - Communicati 1 pm - Youth @	23 2pm - ESL - GED @ 2:30pm - Talley 7:30pm - Contempla	24 9:30am - Morning 10am - Bible Study 12:30pm - Talley 3:30pm - Brownie 6:30pm - Alpha @ 7:30pm - AA Men's	25 1pm - Easy Line 1pm - Talley Piano 6pm - CaregiverU - 6:30pm - Chili Cook	26 10:15am - Disciple 1pm - Talley Piano 6:30pm - Buckles	27 9am - ESL/GED @ 6:30pm - Alcoholics	28 9am - Fall Fun Fest
29 8:30am - Worship 9:45am - Sunday 10:45am - Worship 1 pm - Youth @ 3 pm - Church	30 2pm - ESL - GED @ 2:30pm - Talley 7:30pm - Contempla	31 9:30am - Morning 10am - Bible Study 12:30pm - Talley 6:30pm - Alpha @ 7:30pm - AA Men's	1 1pm - Easy Line 1pm - Talley Piano 6pm - CaregiverU -	2 10:15am - Disciple 1pm - Talley Piano 5:30pm - GS Troop 6:30pm - Buckles	3 9am - ESL/GED @ 6:30pm - Alcoholics	4