

HAPPENINGS this week at CPFUMC

07/12/2017

Find the Happenings on our church website: <https://cpfumc.org/find-out-whats-happening/>

If you prefer NOT to receive these Happenings each Wednesday, please reply and let us know that.

Customary Worship times (8:30 & 10:45) resumed July 2nd

Staycation Mission Week ... Youth are busy, busy, busy.....

Jesus answered by quoting Deuteronomy: "It takes more than bread to stay alive. It takes a steady stream of words from God's mouth."

Matthew 4:4
MSG

PRAYERS for Help and Healing :

Prayers:

Please Remember Miranda Smith Williams @ RAF Croughton; PO Box 71; Brackley: NN13 5XP
Carol, Monica Moser's friend, recovering from colon cancer surgery
Deborah Hatcher, Terry Adams sister, in ICU in Memphis
Christy Ibarra, Karen Jones friend, to find a job soon.
Holly Laughlin and family
Denise Mabry, the Hartman's friend for healing, dropped a glass; fell on broken glass & hit her head resulting in a brain bleed
Pam Moots, Sue Sidney's sister, diagnosed with Lymphoma
John Payne, Sheryl McNichol's father, having heart issues.
Traceyanne Carter also requests prayer for needed dental work.
From Janice Burris for her brother, Ronald Sage; sister in law, Cheryl Sage; and sister, Fern Hardy, each dealing with health issues
David Lewis, Pam Hardin's partner, chronic pain from digestive disorders
Prayer requests from Sterling Hartman: Marilyn Hartman at Highland Estates (rm 303);
Francis Smith, daughter-in-law; Denise Mabry, friend; Shelly Aucsin, & Patti Hartman, sister-in-law
Taylor Smith, granddaughter of Marilyn & Sterling Hartman, having a difficult pregnancy
Frances Cannon, Beth Spaulding's big sister & Vickie Thompson's Aunt, cancer
Deb Pauly, Jill Lundstrom's aunt, breast cancer surgery followed by chemo and radiation
Jake Rainwater, critical condition suffering from Valley Fever; Aaron How's housemate's 25 year old son in law.
Kimberly, daughter of Par's friend, had a double lung transplant & heart surgery
Kris Uglum, Carol Slater's niece, on feeding tube as a result of cancer.
Poppie Swart, sister of Corrie Van Rensburg, with breast cancer; lives in South Africa

Continued prayers:

Bob Packard, for healing & health,
Carmelo Perez, prayers requested by Edna Soto
Donna M, Rosa D, Mina, Cosamina & Connie friends of Monica Moser, needing prayers
Danny Long, at home between cancer treatments.(Kris, Emily, Dillon)
Vicki Cowan, recently diagnosed with breast cancer.
Geraldine Shaw, Susan's mom, diagnosed with lymphoma... Chemotherapy starting
Julie Hughes, dear U.K. friend of Cynthia Lawrence, battling cancer
Martha Vinson's brother, Steve, struggling with dementia.
Thompson Family, Vicki, Alan, Andrew, Beth Spaulding, Frances Cannon, *Beth Spaulding's big sister*
Sarah Price, recovering from surgery for a thoracic spinal cyst. Doing really well....
Steven Wehlmann, Carolyn Smith's brother-in-law, diagnosed with kidney cancer

Rev. Tina Carter	Clara Crank	Sterling Hartman	Marilyn Hartman
Diane Kelly	Martha Orr	Bob & Carol Slater	Beth Spaulding
Duke Squibb	Alan Thompson	Marsha Venable	Adalid Verastegui
Ruth West	Carol Wyatt	Mary (Grover) Williams	JoAnne Wilshusen

PRAYERS of THANKS!! :

THANKS For Friends & time to visit & enjoy

THANKS The laughter of children..... and of seniors sharing

Please RE-MEMBER

AUG. 3

ISHMAEL & ISAAC IN DIALOG

NEW DATES

MUSLIM-CHRISTIAN DIALOGUE CLASSES WILL BE HELD :

Schedule Has Changed!

Due to a scheduling conflict, our joint class with the Islamic Center of Brushy Creek will now be meeting for **five consecutive Thursday mornings, beginning August 3**, from 10-11:30 a.m.

The **Evening sessions will be held later in the fall**. We apologize for this schedule change!

Last summer several members of Cedar Park Church and their friends participated in a book group to read and discuss *Memories of Muhammad* by Omid Safi.

Many of us were amazed to find out we knew practically nothing about Islamic religion. So, the book was a real eye opener for us. We even took a trip over to the Islamic Center of Brushy Creek to have some conversations with several of our Muslim neighbors there.

This year the Red Bench conversations in Cedar Park/Leander have provided us with additional opportunities to interact with members of the Islamic Center and their Imam, Sheikh Yassir Fazaga.

As a result, we have decided to hold a series of classes this July and August to engage in dialogue with our neighbors at the Islamic Center of Brushy Creek.

The classes will consist of reading the Bible and the Qur'an side-by-side to consider the parallels between the two books. Please consider joining us for this wonderful series of opportunities to be a real neighbor to these wonderful people in our community.

JULY 24TH- 28TH

OPEN HEARTS SUMMER CAMP

SPREAD THE WORD!



July 24th through July 28th.

9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Ages 5-12

Please go to www.cpfumc.org for more information

CPFUMC has a summer art camp!

This is the 2nd year to sign your kids up for a fun and educational summer camp.

Classes include **Music**, where your child will learn about the classical composers, periods of music, and rhythm and note games. In **Movement** they will be kept moving through balance, speed, and agility games. In **Art** your child will be creating an air dry clay project, weaving project and oil pastel project. And last, but not least, in **Science** they will make a simple machine, create a visible chemical reaction, and make an edible cell.

This is the **best link** which provides info on the Open heARTS Summer Camp. It has info plus also a button to sign up. The home page just references the sign-up form only. If you are looking for a link with information this is the best one. If you just want the sign up form, the home page has a button for that.

<https://cpfumc.org/open-hearts-summer-camp/>

JULY 26TH

THE COOK-OFF SCHEDULE

ICE CREAM

ICE CREAM SOCIAL

Did someone forget to turn on the air conditioner? As usual our Texas weather has not let us down, it is HOT. CPFUMC has just the thing to cool you off. Please plan on attending the **ICE CREAM SOCIAL** on **Wednesday, July 26th at 6:30 in the sanctuary.**

We invite **all** to bring their favorite homemade ice cream and participate in the contest. You can register online at www.cpfumc.org or pick up a registration form at the church. When registering on line from the home page please scroll down to "Upcoming Events" to locate the registration form. Complete the form and do not forget to **click on the "register" button**. Once completed you will receive a confirmation email.

If you do not wish to make homemade ice cream you are also welcomed to bring your favorite ice cream from the store. The ice creams purchased in the store will not be part of the contest but available to all to enjoy. Please leave in the original containers.

There will be a **small chest freezer** available beginning the morning of Wednesday, July 26th. You are welcome to place your ice cream in the freezer anytime during the day. Please be sure your name is on the container.

Remember all are invited including friends. Please come and enjoy this special treat with us followed by games of **BINGO**.

If you would like to be part of the planning team, please contact Carolyn Smith (512) 970-9087.

SEE YOU THERE.

JULY AUGUST	UNITED METHODIST WOMEN	ALL WOMEN WELCOMED
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Great Mission U!! July 7-9 : We collected about 160 bedding kits and \$13,000 to send to UMCOR !! UMW is a group of amazing women. We studied (1) Living As A Covenant Community, (2) Climate Justice, and (3) Missionary Conferences of the U.S.. We sang, we prayed, we laughed together. We enjoyed the 20 youth and children that studied Missionary Conferences and shared what they learned with us.

Plan Ahead for 2018: Mission u 2018; July 13-15, 2018; Mt. Wesley, Kerrville, TX
Our NEXT Unit gathering will be in August (12th)

AUG 14, 10:00AM	BOOK DISCUSSION WITH THE AUTHOR, ANDREA LUCADO	ALL WELCOME
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Please come and enjoy meeting the author of "English Lessons", Andrea Lucado, as well as participating in a discussion surrounding her writing.

English Lessons, The Crooked Path of Growing Toward Faith

Could She Come to Love the Questions Themselves?

The church wasn't just a part of Andrea Lucado's childhood. It *was* her childhood. It provided more than happy moments. It provided an invitation to know Jesus.

When Andrea arrived in Oxford the year after she graduated from college, she expected to meet God there. What she didn't expect was that God would be much bigger than she'd believed.

In this engaging memoir, Andrea speaks to all of us who wrestle with doubt and identity. "*So many nights in Oxford,*" Andrea writes, "*I felt like the details of my faith were getting fuzzier. Nights turned restless with questions. I questioned God's existence, and the doubt was getting into my bones.*"

In **English Lessons**, Andrea takes us through the roads of England and, more importantly, the paths of the soul. Here she explores the journey of a changing faith and an unchanging God—and why growing up starts with realizing just how small we are.

JULY-AUGUST	CHOIR
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Just a reminder that you are now off for the summer - enjoy your rest -- we will resume towards the middle of September with a start on Advent music--It seems that most folks want to do a pot luck for choir at the end of July -- so how about July 30th after second service at my house?

Thank you! Jodi; 512-633-0009

MARK CALENDARS	CHILDREN'S SPECIAL ACTIVITIES
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Our next **EMPOWER** is in the Pumpkin Patch in October, hope to see you there
Any questions, please contact Carolyn Smith (512) 970-9087, carolynsmith2215@gmail.com.

INFORMATION ON CHURCH VITALITY!

JULY 2017

Month to Date Finances	This Week's Attendance																																	
<table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 40%;">Anticipated expenses</td> <td style="width: 20%; text-align: right;">\$ 18,500.</td> <td style="width: 40%; text-align: center;"><u>July 9nd</u></td> </tr> <tr> <td> Contributions (2/4 Sundays)</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$ 10,605.</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td> Needed (Surplus):</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$ 7,895.</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Additional Giving</td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><u>8:30 am</u></td> </tr> <tr> <td> Capital Campaign (Parking Lot)</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$ 20.</td> <td style="text-align: center;">29 (Visitors:6)</td> </tr> <tr> <td> \$2 For 20</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$ 270.</td> <td style="text-align: center;"><u>10:45am</u></td> </tr> <tr> <td> True Vineyards (Rwandan Widow)</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$ 29.</td> <td style="text-align: center;">70 (Visitors: 5)</td> </tr> <tr> <td> Communion(MFCC)</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$ 145.</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td> Memorial Outdoor Sanctuary</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$ 90.</td> <td style="text-align: center;"><u>Sunday School</u></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: center;">Children: 13</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: center;">Adults: 32</td> </tr> </table>	Anticipated expenses	\$ 18,500.	<u>July 9nd</u>	Contributions (2/4 Sundays)	\$ 10,605.		Needed (Surplus):	\$ 7,895.		Additional Giving		<u>8:30 am</u>	Capital Campaign (Parking Lot)	\$ 20.	29 (Visitors:6)	\$2 For 20	\$ 270.	<u>10:45am</u>	True Vineyards (Rwandan Widow)	\$ 29.	70 (Visitors: 5)	Communion(MFCC)	\$ 145.		Memorial Outdoor Sanctuary	\$ 90.	<u>Sunday School</u>			Children: 13			Adults: 32	
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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

WEDNESDAY, July 12th

YOUTH Stacation Mission
1:00p Easy Line Dancing Class

THURSDAY, July 13th

YOUTH Stacation Mission

FRIDAY, July 14th

YOUTH Stacation Mission
9:00am Men coffee at Randall's Cypress Creek
10:00a Weekly Women's Coffee

SATURDAY, July 15th

SUNDAY, July 16th

8:30am WORSHIP, Come, Celebrate, Communion,-
9:45am Sunday School for all ages
10:45am WORSHIP, Come, Celebrate,-
3:30p Worship at The Pointe
6:00p YOUTH

MONDAY, July 17th

7:30p Contemplative Prayer
6:30p Church Council

TUESDAY, July 18th

9:30-9:50am Morning Prayer Service
10:00am Lectionary Discussion in the Sanctuary
11:30a Child's Haven Board Mtg.

WEDNESDAY, July 19th

9:30a Membership Care
1:00p Easy Line Dancing Class

LOOKING FORWARD !!

July 21st Newsletter Input
July 24-28th Arts Camp

July 26th Ice Cream CookOff
Aug 3rd 10a Ishmael & Isaac in Dialog

Please check the Calendar at our website: www.cpfumc.org

ON-GOING HAPPENINGS !!

SUNDAYS 6PM

YOUTH MEETINGS

STAYCATION MISSION July 7-14

This afternoon the youth are at Highland Estates having refreshments, visiting, and playing games with the residents!! After having worked outside all morning!!

Youth meeting 6pm Sundays!!

Meals needed for Sunday night meetings .. talk to Rev. Bonnie!!

HILL COUNTRY COMMUNITY MINISTRIES

RED BAGS

PLEASE REMEMBER TO BRING YOUR "RED BAGS" FILLED FOR HCCM....

DURING THE SUMMER MONTHS KIDS ARE AT HOME AND EXTRA FOOD IS NEEDED WITH NO BACKPACKS COMING HOME FROM SCHOOL !!!

Experiencing diversity

Guests packed the intimate dining room inside the Farfans' home in Maplewood, New Jersey.

Morrow Memorial United Methodist Church members were hosting their first Syrian Supper Club with their friend Abdul Alargha. He sat at the head of the table beaming, welcoming each guest, shaking hands and introducing himself. With a quiet sigh, the once successful Damascus businessman turned refugee and now asylum recipient leaned back in his chair, gently clasping his wife's shoulder. No longer destitute on the streets of Manhattan, Alargha was secure and settled in the welcoming embrace of New Jersey United Methodists who defied societal predispositions, fearful skepticism and political authorities to radically live the love of Jesus.

"We used to call this kind of relation in Arabic is like brother but not from my mother," said a smiling Alargha, describing his close friendships with the church members.

The Supper Club brings Syrians and their friends in the community together twice a month for a delicious meal cooked by Syrian women who earn money from tickets sold. After the meal, Alargha shared his story of escape from Syria and separation from his family. In 2012, his companies were closed by the Assad regime after they were deemed "threats." Among them was a charitable organization supporting women widowed in the government's brutal crackdown on widespread dissent. After security forces forcefully entered his workplaces and home, Alargha flew to New York on a business visa with \$400 and a laptop.

"I remember waking up in-flight thinking, 'What am I doing on this plane? Where am I going to go?'" he exclaimed. Hours prior, he was a prosperous entrepreneur with a beautiful house and hundreds of employees. Meanwhile, his wife, Rana, and three children spent a year and a half on the run, stealthily hiding from the regime's authorities. When missiles rained, Rana would shelter her children by saying they were fireworks and special effects for the filming of a movie.

In 2015, several attorneys helped Alargha receive political asylum in the United States. The next day he began the process to retrieve his family.

Morrow Church was ready to help. The church worked with First Friends of New York and New Jersey, a refugee support agency, to facilitate the family's settlement and adjustment process. The people of Morrow Church helped the Alarghas find an apartment in Montclair, New Jersey, where they could embrace the future.

"I kneeled on the ground and took my wife's hand and held my kids' legs when they arrived at JFK airport," he said. "Sometimes I wake up at night and ask myself, 'Are they really here or is this some kind of imagination?'"

Alargha says the United Methodists are his main supporters and have been "like a solid wall" against his back.

"Everything we have is because of their support, and we're so grateful."

After Morrow Church came to his assistance, Alargha returned the embrace by addressing the congregation during a worship service about his experiences as a refugee and joined youth from the church on a weekend trip to Washington, D.C., to meet with the state's legislators about immigration policies.

Employment remains the prime challenge for Syrian refugees including Alargha, who has taken on part-time work while he searches for a more stable job.

For Alargha, it's enough for him that there are people who want to help.

"Even if they don't help, just because they have this will, this is more than enough," he said. "As Jesus said, 'Break bread.' **I believe these United Methodists I have met represent Jesus himself.** We found open arms here. I can tell you, frankly and honestly, **what I have received from this church for me is like I have received it from Jesus himself.**"