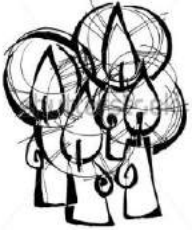


HAPPENINGS this week at CPFUMC

12/06/2017

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.

Sunday Worship times 8:30a & 10:45a



I have been drawn to the living heart of every spiritual tradition I have encountered. What I found irresistible was the essential unity at the core of all that diversity; each faith tradition was singing the same song in a deliciously different voice: God is love. —Mirabai Starr, God of Love: A Guide to the Heart of Judaism, Christianity, and Islam

As Thomas Merton reflected, "We are already one." We just need to start becoming what we already are. —James Finley Jesus and Buddha: Paths to Awakening, disc 2

PRAYERS for Help and Healing :

Recent Requests for Prayers:

College students preparing for exams, graduating, traveling "home for the holidays" ...
Juanita Jacobs, Jarred's mother & Gigi's cousin, health issues that they are not serious & quickly recovered.
Help ease her anxieties & bring her happiness.
Edna Davidson, Joan Davidson's mother, fell and broke her ribs...
Bernadine Santucci, Irene Carrillo's cousin, healing from back surgery
Pauline Eng at home waiting for next step
Diann Russell , now at Health South Rehab in RR ... please call before visiting
Ruth Gray's sister, Luci, fell & hit her head – brain swelling, continue healing
John Baugh, the Hartmann's' backyard neighbor, fighting bladder cancer
Sterling Hartman underwent an EEG Friday to see if his neurologist can find out why he is having seizures
Pattie Hartman, sister-in-law of Sterling, broken foot needing another surgery since first not successful
John Hartman, infection from pacemaker installation
Karen Jones, had surgery to repair a torn Achilles tendon - Healing at home

Dave & Jennifer Ruffcorn, needing new jobs

Emma Aylene Aviles, step-daughter of Jorge Soto

Olivia Coleman, soccer mate of Sabrina Blount & Cori James, torn ACL healing so she can play soccer again

Eileen Kreh's unborn grandchild be born healthy

Becky Harrell Wright, missionary friend, at home after car accident-broken pelvis & collarbone

PRAYERS of THANKS!! :

THANKS Some Rain!!!!

DECEMBER 10TH

CARE PACKAGE FOR VICTOR

TO TURKEY

Victor Lee Williams joined the U.S. Air Force a little over one year ago. He and his wife, Miranda Smith Williams left for RAF Croughton more than five months ago. In October he left England for Turkey. This is his first holidays without family. Not only did he miss Thanksgiving but now Christmas and New Years. This is also a time of his first wedding anniversary and 20th birthday.
Some church members have inquired about sending Victor a care package to Turkey? Suggested items would be cards and local or Texas type items which are not sold in Turkey. Also, homemade items as long as they will travel well. Just remember it will take about two weeks to arrive and all items must be able to be shipped.

If you plan to participate in this care package, please drop off your items in the narthex no later than **Sunday, Dec 10th**.

Please RE-MEMBER with prayers and cards

Jean Benson

Diane Kelly

Phyllis Myers

Carol Wyatt

c/o Merrilee Dauer
630 5131156
1320 Brook St. Apt.D
St Charles, Ill.60174

Isle at Cedar Ridge #201
2200 S Lakeline Blvd;
Cedar Park 78613

310 Chisholm Tr. #206.
Round Rock, TX 78681

E. Duke Squibb
12042 Bittern Hollow
Austin TX – 78758

Cedar Ridge Care Center
2100 S Lakeline Blvd
Cedar Park, TX 78613

Marsha Venable
2112 West Riviera Drive
Cedar Park, TX 78613

Audrey Blount
Samford University
P.O. Box 291234
Birmingham, AL 35229
512-761-2139

Emily Doty
Blinn College
902 College Ave.
BCPA Box 9883
Brenham, TX 77833

Sarah How
1121 Norman St,
Denton TX 76201

Aaron How
2242 Flat Creek Dr.
Richardson, TX 75080

Miranda Smith Williams
RAF Croughton;
PO Box 71;
Brackley: NN13 5XP

NEEDS

HILL COUNTRY COMMUNITY MINISTRIES

JAM & JELLY

PLEASE bring more **JAM & JELLY**, if possible. HEB Stores and CAFB donate cases of Peanut butter but seldom are there donations of jam/jelly -

DEC. 3RD

PASTOR PETER LEADS 4-WEEK ADVENT STUDY

9:45am SUNDAYS



Four Sundays, beginning Sunday, DECEMBER 3
from 9:45-10:30 a.m. to discuss:

"Silence and Other Surprising Invitations of Advent",

To prepare for next Sunday's class, please read through week 2 in the book.
We will meet in the Conference Room in the Multi-Ministries Building.***

DEC. 7

ROCKIN' COOKIE EXCHANGE ALL



Please join us

6:30pm Thursday 12/7

for an evening of fun, fellowship, and joy.

This will be a time to get to know your fellow church members, sing a few Christmas carols, and try our hand at cookie and gingerbread house decorating.

If you can, but not mandatory, bring 3 dozen cookies. You will taste a few and take home others to try later.

See you there.

SAT, DEC 9TH

ADVENT BRUNCH FOR WOMEN

ALL INVITED

You are invited Saturday, December 9, 2017 First UMC, Cedar Park 10am-1pm to share brunch & fellowship

Women's Advent Brunch - Angels Among Us

We will be collecting donations of New socks & pillowcases for the women and children at the Williamson County Crisis Center, **Hope Alliance** And Newborn/#1 or #2 Diapers & Baby Wipes for the babies cared for by **Acts Of Love** Monetary Donations are always welcomed ...

WEEKLY NEEDS

BACKPACK MINISTRY

WHITESTONE ELEMENTARY

NEEDS: Hot & Cold Breakfast Cereal & Fruits, Veggies, Lunches, MILK etc...

Each week we pack and deliver 6 backpacks to Whitestone Elementary

Each backpack contains **2 Breakfasts; 2 Lunches & 2 Dinners plus 4 Snacks.**

The backpacks are sent home with children that might not have food over weekends.

Continued PRAYERS

for Help and Healing :

Please Remember Miranda Smith Williams @ RAF Croughton; PO Box 71; Brackley: NN13 5XP

Continued prayers for our families & friends:

Christy Ibarra	David Lewis	Deb Pauly	Denise Mabry,	Poppie Swart
Frances Cannon,	Charlane Zigmond	John Payne	Jose Gonzalez	Kris Uglum
Pam Packard	Ronald Sage	Cheryl Sage	Fern Hardy	Francis Smith
Denise Mabry	Shelly Aucsin	Keith & Caroline Jensen		Patti Hartman
Taylor Smith	Connie Hayden	Carmelo Perez	Vicki Cowan	Geraldine Shaw
Julie Hughes	Thompson Family	Steven Wehlmann	Rod & Stella Hycho	Ed Golden
Rev. Tina Carter	Sue Raske	Jackie Vaughter	Jim Wyndham family	Lora
Clara Crank	Sterling Hartman	Marilyn Hartman	Diane Kelly	Holly Laughlin
Danny Long	Martha Orr	Bob Packard	Bob & Carol Slater	Beth Spaulding
Duke Squibb	Alan Thompson	Marsha Venable	Adalid Verastegui	Mary Linda Verastegui
Ruth West	Mary (Grover) Williams	Carol Wyatt	JoAnne Wilshusen	

DECEMBER 2017 INFORMATION ON CHURCH VITALITY!

Month to Date Finances		This Week's Attendance
Anticipated expenses	\$ 18,500.	<u>December 3rd</u>
Contributions (1/5 Sundays)	\$ 4,162.	<u>8:30 am</u>
Needed (Surplus):	\$14,338.	35 (Visitors:0)
Additional Giving		<u>10:45am</u>
Capital Campaign (Parking Lot)	\$ 0.	92 (Visitors:5)
\$2 For 20	\$ 39.	<u>Sunday School</u>
True Vineyards (Rwandan Widow)	\$ 17.	Children: 45
Communion(ACTS/Hope)	\$ 136.	Adults: 52
HCCM	\$ 20.	
LISD Backpacks	\$ 100.	

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

WEDNESDAY, December 6th
 1:00p Easy Line Dancing Class

THURSDAY, December 7th
 10:15-NOON Disciple Bible: Genesis
 6:30p Cookie Exchange

FRIDAY, December 8th
 9:00am Men coffee at Randall's Cypress Creek
 10:00a Weekly Women's Coffee

SATURDAY, December 9th
 10a Advent Brunch for Women

SUNDAY, December 10th Second Sunday of Advent
 8:30am WORSHIP, Come, Celebrate, Communion
 9:45am Sunday School for ALL ages;" -
 10:45am WORSHIP, Come, Celebrate,-
 Noon Choir Practice
 1p -3:00 Youth

MONDAY, December 11th
 6:30p FINANCE
 7:30p Contemplative Prayer

TUESDAY, December 12TH
 9:30-9:50am Morning Prayer Service
 10:00am Lectionary Discussion in the Sanctuary
 6:30pm The Alpha Course

WEDNESDAY, December 13TH 1:00p Easy Line Dancing Class

LOOKING FORWARD !!

Dec 14th 10:15 Disciple (Peter's Birthday)
 Dec 15th NewsLetter Input
 Dec 18th 6:30 COUNCIL
 Dec 20th 9:30a Membership
 Dec 21st 10:15 Disciple
 Dec 23rd 8a Open Doors UUMC

Sunday, Dec 24th Worship 10am, 5pm, 7pm
 Dec 28th 9a Advent VBS
 Dec. 31st 10am One Worship Service
 Jan.27th, 2018 ReThink Leadership
 Jan 28-30th UMW TX Legislative Event

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

ON-GOING HAPPENINGS !!

SUNDAY AFTERNOONS

YOUTH MEETINGS

*Youth will be practicing with the choir after second service and meet afterwards ...1-3p..!!
Meals needed for Sunday meetings .. talk to Rev. Bonnie!!*

DEC.

CHOIR

December 10 - meet at 10:30 and sing sing Christmas Gloria at second service & practice after second service
December 17 - sing for special program - 4 songs at BOTH services - meet for 7:50 am to warm up: *Christmas Gloria; Christmas Wish; Prepare the Way: Once in Royal David's City* - may be replaced with another

December 17 - 3:00 pm meet at The Pointe to sing for nursing home (Discovery Blvd.)
December 31 - meet at 10:30 am and sing at second service song from 12/17
January - end of month start music for Lent/Easter

We will start early for Lent/Easter music as I think I will be out a few Sundays in March for my job at St. Stephen's
Let me know if questions-Thanks, Jodi 512-633-0009

DECEMBER

UPCOMING EVENTS


MAKE PLANS

DECEMBER 28TH

ADVENT VBS

CHILDREN

CPFUMC ADVENT VBS
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 28, 2017
9:00am to 1:00pm
In the sanctuary



All elementary age children and their friends are invited.

Parents complete the registration on the church website or pick up a form at the church. Get your registration in early.

Lunch will be provided.

Please Register Early

On the website:

<https://cpfumc.org/> then select:

When's the Next then

Vacation Bible School (at the bottom of this page is the link to the registration form for Christmas VBS

<https://cpfumc.org/christmas-vbs-registration-form/>

OR

Pick up a form at the church...

JAN 10TH 2018

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

ALL WOMEN WELCOMED

Faithful UMW , Mission Mamas, Thank you for your commitment to the UMW of CPFUMC.

Dec 9th Advent Brunch We will be sponsoring this for women on Sat. Dec. 9th...

Book Discussion Group,

Wed. Jan.10 , 2018 - 6:30p.m. Novel: <i>The Feathered Bone</i> by Julie Cantrell Genre: General Fiction Leader: Author Julie Cantrell	Wed. March 7 , 2018 at 6:30p.m. Novel: <i>Counted With the Stars</i> by Connilyn Cossette Genre: Biblical Fiction Leader: Author Connilyn Cossette	Wed. Oct. 3 , 2018 at 6:30p.m. Novels by Katherine Reay <i>Dear Mr. Knightly; Lizzy & Jane; The Bronte Plot ; & The Austen Escape</i> Genre: General Fiction Leader: Katherine Reay
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APRIL 27-28, 2018

SeaSide Escape

WOMEN'S RETREAT

Wish you were at the beach?

Longing for time to slow down, wiggle your toes in the sand, and bask in the warmth of God's presence?

Join us at SeaSide Escape. It's a beach-themed retreat where you'll experience meaningful Bible study; and worship, connect with other

6pm April 27th- 6pm April 28th

Cedar Lodge 1400 RR 261, Buchanan Dam, TX
\$80 per person.

- Limited tickets available on a first come, first served basis.
- Participants need to be 18 or over.
- Tickets go on sale January 1st, 2018.

women, and have time for quiet reflection and plenty of laughter!

- Registration will be online at goodnewsunc.org.
- For more information, contact Pat Roberts at
- patsrob@swbell.net or Sue Sidney
- SPONSORED BY GOOD NEWS UMW

JAN.27TH, 2018

RETHINK LEADERSHIP

NWHILLS UMC

TIDBITS

TIS THE SEASON

Wow.... WHAT A YEAR!

HCCM

Hill Country Community Ministries did so much more than it's ever done because of our AAAAAAMAZING community. Yet, I am still surprised by how many people don't know who we are and what we do. More importantly, people don't always know who we help. HCCM is a food pantry, clothes closet and resource center that helps those in need and/or have faced a crisis. That crisis may be someone who lives paycheck to paycheck and just lost their job. It may be a parent whose spouse just walked out on them and their four children. Like the phone call I received the other day, a father who's house that he, his wife, daughter and disabled son rent/lived in for 4 years sold right out from them. They now have less than 30 days to find a new house on a limited budget. Or it's a family because of the rising costs of housing now calls their vehicle their "home." These are real people with real stories we hear quite often. Hill Country Community Ministries helps those in our community in need.

This is what YOU'VE accomplished this year!!!! Did you know Hill Country Community Ministries:

- Served 359 NEW families just this past October, that's a 32% increase from 2016
- On average, we provide food to nearly 2,000 individuals monthly, of which 40% are children
- Increased food distribution by 74% YTD with our growth and the addition of two very successful programs; Fresh Food Fridays and Starbucks Feeding America Program; that's over 40,000 meals a month... That's A LOT of food!!!!
- Collected and distributed over 800 brand new athletic shoes to children in our school districts
- Provided vision vouchers, dental assistance, coats, blankets, fans and additional resources
- And will distribute over 500 holiday meals for Thanksgiving or Christmas as well as 500 hams for Easter
- Fed over 150 individuals on Thanksgiving Day
- Provided assistance to two local shelters, evacuees, sent trucks FULL of donated items, funds and volunteers to those in Houston, La Grange, southeast Texas (ie: Tyler County), Rockport, Port A, etc. affected by Hurricane Harvey. HCCM is a resource center for western Williamson and NW Travis counties for Salvation Army, Red Cross and many other organizations

With all of the blessings this past year, Hill Country Community Ministries still absolutely NEEDS your support. Last year, I set a goal to raise \$30,000 in the last month of December. We did it because of people like YOU!!!! Woohoo!!!! With the continued increase in the number of families we serve with food, clothes, new shoes, vision vouchers, etc. because of those we helped during Hurricane Harvey and still do now, we NEED monetary donations. As we approach the end of 2017, we have a goal to raise \$40,000 for HCCM. Admittedly, It's an ambitious goal.... I BELIEVE WE can do it!!!!

There are several ways you can donate:

1. You can use your mandatory year end IRA distribution and name Hill Country Community Ministries as the beneficiary
2. You can write a check made payable to HCCM and mail it to P. O. Box 1064, Leander, TX 78641
3. You may also go online at www.hccm.org and click on the DONATE NOW button in the top right corner.

I share this EVERY year..... When I am asked by community members what can we do, I am reminded of a comment from Leander Fire Chief Bill Gardner "Anything we can do to help you feed our community during the holidays makes our jobs easier." I get it. And you get it. Every dollar counts! I say this ALL of the time, "We do the things we do because of YOU!"

THANK YOU my AAAAAAMAZING Community! We appreciate YOUUUUUU!!!

With gratitude, Tiesa, Executive Director

Hill Country Community Ministries

Mail: P.O. Box 1064, Leander, TX 78646

Location: 1005 Lacy Drive, Leander, TX 78641

Phone: 512-259-0360, Ext. 204

Fax: 512-259-2339

www.hccm.org

Hill Country Community Ministries is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation, a coalition of churches assisted by area businesses, civic organizations, schools and caring individuals that provides food, clothing and other assistance for people in crisis and those living in poverty in southwest Williamson and northwest Travis counties.

Two months since Harvey made landfall. [Surely all the Early Response Team \(ERT\) work is done](#), right?

Wrong.

After six weeks in **Victoria**, teams have completed 106 chainsaw jobs, 29 cases of interior clean-up and tarped 49 roofs.

Over 100 work orders remain open with more expected to come, which does not include work orders in the Coastal Bend area.

A team from the **Hill Country District**, led by First UMC, Boerne member Bob Dibble recently completed a trip to Victoria. They focused primarily on chainsaw and debris removal work. Several team members have extensive disaster response experience; including responses to Hurricane Ike, flood relief in San Antonio, and clean-up after the Bastrop fires.

Owners offered cold drinks, served tacos for lunch, and helped remove fallen debris. The smell of gas fumes and sawdust float in the air.

An owner's grandson helped to remove tree debris at one work site. The fallen tree had just barely missed the very humble travel trailer he lived in (fortunately, he was elsewhere during the storm). A banty rooster kept watch on the activity from the front porch. Afterwards, the grandson shared his moving story about falling away from God, being born again, and rebuilding his spiritual life—an inspiring sermon, team members agreed.

The grandson asked, "Why do you do this work?"

"God has greatly blessed us, so we want to bless others," replied FUMC, Boerne member Vickie Huffman.

"We're here to be the hands and feet of Christ." said Dibble, "We are all called to help others."

A crew from **Oak Hill UMC**, Austin arrived and brought two recovery teams and one ERT team. After unloading stacks of flood buckets, they visited two homeowners. They have been working for these families for several weeks. Now that the sodden drywall and insulation is gone, those survivors are ready for the repair process of flood damage. The cloying smell of things left wet too long wafted around, especially from the piles of debris still lining the streets.

Rockport is still buzzing with recovery activity. Roofers are perched on many homes since you can't fix the inside of a house until it has a functional lid. Fleets of large dump trucks and pickers crawled slowly along roads, scooping up the massive piles of debris. Many electrical trucks remain in the area. Most residents now have reliable power, but there is still a lot of "tweaking" to do. One substation just east of Rockport resembled a crumpled Erector set.

FUMC, Corpus Christi Incident Commander Jim Callis sent a team **from Hyde Park, NY** to Rattlesnake Point on Copano Bay. Before they headed out, Jim advised, "Only mess with the big debris piles with a long pole."

One team member asked, "Why?"

"Because it's called 'Rattlesnake Point' for a **reason**," he replied. I'm betting they steered well clear.

Some would wonder why they came all the way from New York. Team leader Terry Temple explained, "We saw the need and felt called to go. People just can't do the necessary work themselves; they're too attached. We make a difference and help homeowners take a step back toward normal living," she said. "We like being part of the process of recovery."

This team built a strong relationship with the families, especially one with four children. The eleven-year-old son proudly served as interpreter since his mother didn't speak English.

"He did a better job than our paid translator in Haiti," said Temple. "He felt good that he was able to help."

Already, Dibble plans another trip to the area at the beginning of November, with more to follow. He wants to send three to four recovery teams per year from **FUMC, Boerne**. The extensive rebuilding work will take years to complete.

Plenty of opportunities are still available to help our neighbors affected by the storm:

[Sign up for an ERT or chainsaw training here.](#)

[Sign up for Volunteers in Mission training to be ready when recovery work begins.](#)

[Donate funds through your church \(Conference Advance 2057\)](#) or [individually online or by sending to the Conference office.](#)

[Donate to UMCOR Advance 901670](#) to support ongoing relief and rebuilding efforts.

Note: at present, the Conference has reached capacity on flood buckets. Watch the Conference website for future calls to assemble flood buckets.

"The most rewarding thing is the families we work with," said Huffman. "They are so appreciative of the help they are receiving. Their courage and strength amaze us."