

# HAPPENINGS this week at CPFUMC

02/28/2018

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**

## Evolution

### Creation Continues

*Karl Rahner said that we are "pressured" from within to evolve. That pressure is what we have always called the Holy Spirit. And the Spirit is creatively at work in this moment, urging us to evolve, to become a new kind of human being such as the world has rarely seen before. But what has been rare must now become commonplace. —Judy Cannato*

For me, this wondrous universe cannot be an incoherent and accidental cosmos, nor can it be grounded in evil, although I admit that this intellectual leap and bias toward beauty is still an act of faith and trust. I further believe that a free and loving God desires our participation in co-creation. The Great Work is ours too. \_ Fr. Richard Rohr

## PRAYERS *for Help and Healing* :

### Recent Requests for Prayers:

All those suffering with flu, allergies, infections, sore limbs, etc.

Jodi Blount prayers for her & her choir students travel to Ireland this Saturday & for her stomach issues

Marie Porterfield moving to Cedar Pointe for rehab: 1301, Cottonwood Creek Trail, Cedar Park, TX 78613

Karen Goodman, will be at home for rehab

Prayer of Thanks: Marilyn Hartman fell twice, and does not need brain surgery. Home recovering

Martha Orr has developed an infection after her knee surgery

Susan Shaw gives thanks to God for being assigned a primary care physician so her illness can be treated !!!

Edna Soto is in St David's RR with heart issues and an infection

Duke Squibb is in North Austin Med Center with MRSA and other concerns

Mary Linda Verastegui back home at Highland Estates

Ruth West has fallen and fractured her hip

Sympathy for the Laughlin family on the death of William's mother, Glennie Laughlin, Thorndale

## PRAYERS *of THANKS!!* :

**THANKS** Red Bags, Red Jam & Jelly; Red tomatoes; Red foods of all kinds for HCCM!!!

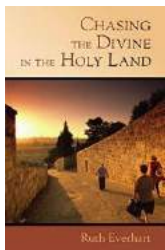
**THANKS** Bluebonnets appearing in the church lawn!!!!

**FEB 28<sup>H</sup> NOON**

**METHODIST READING CLUB**

**LENT**

Seven Wednesdays at noon, beginning February 14



Pastor Peter will be leading a Wednesday noon book study during the season of Lent. For seven consecutive Wednesdays, beginning February 14 and ending March 28, Peter will be exploring Ruth Everhart's *Chasing the Divine in the Holy Land*. The book, a 2016 UMW Reading Program selection, recounts Ruth's experiences on an unforgettable pilgrimage to the Holy Land, as one of several ministers taking part in a documentary about pilgrimage. Ruth admits that she had little idea just how demanding – yet ultimately rewarding – her transformation from Presbyterian minister, wife, and mom to pilgrim would be. It's a candid and delightful book, one that will surely serve as a wonderful companion to our Lenten journey.

JOIN this group ...Feb 28 Discussion of Chapters 7-9.

**WELCOME**

**HILL COUNTRY COMMUNITY MINISTRIES**

**RED BAGS**

### **Welcome to our new delegate to HCCM**

Morgan Wertman, Email: Morgan Wertman: [Notaspamfan@yahoo.com](mailto:Notaspamfan@yahoo.com)

Phone : 419-212-2935 Wife : Julie

**Thank YOU to Jim West (Old /previous delegate)**

**PLEASE** Fill the RED HEB bags in celebration of February – heart month -

**MAR 3 CAPITAL DISTRICT UNITED METHODIST MEN'S QUARTERLY BREAKFAST FELLOWSHIP 8:00AM**

Capital District United Methodist Men will be having our Quarterly Breakfast Fellowship at Manchaca UMC (1011 Farm to Market 1626, Manchaca TX 78652) on Saturday March 3, 2018 8:00 am. We are extending an invitation for you to come and fellowship with us.

- 8:00 am - Coffee and Fellowship 8:30 am - Breakfast/Announcements/Business (Dave Glazner)
- 9:10 am - Clothes Closet Update – Ralph Eckwall / Bobby Callison
- 9:20 am – Mr. Phil Jones – “What God Wants for Us”
- 9:40 am - Music 9:50 am - Holy Communion 10:00 am - Adjourn

**Please bring Blue Jeans (waist 28-36), Tennis/Running Shoes, backpack, or white socks to support our homeless ministry.**

You can sign/renew your Local UMM National Charter by using the following link

<http://www.gcumm.org/support/chartering> online or by mail.

You can sign/renew up for EMS by using the following link <http://www.gcumm.org/support/ems> online or by mail. Your support of EMS helps to fund the upper room prayer line, EMS magazine/devotional and scouting.

Thank you, Martin E. Rodriguez Capital District UMM President

Info: Capital District United Methodist Men [<capital.district.umm.rio.texas@gmail.com>](mailto:capital.district.umm.rio.texas@gmail.com)

**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:**

Frances Cannon,	Rev. Tina Carter	Vicki Cowan	Christy Ibarra	Ed Golden
Jose Gonzalez	Fern Hardy	Connie Hayden	Julie Hughes	Rod & Stella Hycho
David Lewis	Denise Mabry	Pam Packard	Deb Pauly	John Payne
Steven Wehlmann	JoAnne Wilshusen	Jim Wyndham family		Charlane Zigmund
Clara Crank	Sterling Hartman	Marilyn Hartman	Diane Kelly	Holly Laughlin
Danny Long	Martha Orr	Bob Packard	Bob & Carol Slater	Lillian Smith
Beth Spaulding	Duke Squibb	Alan Thompson	Thompson Family	Marsha Venable
Mary Linda Verastegui	Adalid Verastegui	Ruth West	Mary (Grover) Williams	Carol Wyatt

**FEBRUARY 2018 INFORMATION ON CHURCH VITALITY!**

Month to Date Finances		This Week's Attendance
Anticipated expenses	\$ 21,865.	<b>February 25<sup>th</sup></b>
Contributions (4/4 Sundays)	\$ 18,510.	
Needed (Surplus):	\$ 3,355.	<b>8:30 am</b>
Additional Giving		27(Visitors:2)
Capital Campaign (Parking Lot)	\$ 175.	
\$2 For 20	\$ 282.	<b>10:45am</b>
True Vineyards (Rwandan Widow)	\$ 85.	59(Visitors:6)
Communion(Disaster )	\$ 140.	
		<b>Sunday School</b>
		Children: 16
		Adults: 10

**CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

**WEDNESDAY, February 28<sup>th</sup>**

- 9:30a A Matter of Balance
- Noon Book Discussion
- 1:00p Easy Line Dancing Class

**THURSDAY, March 1<sup>st</sup>**

**SUNDAY, March 4<sup>th</sup>**

- 8:30a WORSHIP, Come, Celebrate, Communion
- 9:45a Sunday School for all ages;
- 10:45a WORSHIP, Come, Celebrate
- Noon Confirmation Class
- 6:00p YOUTH at church

**MONDAY, March 5<sup>th</sup>**

**FRIDAY, March 2<sup>nd</sup>**

9:00am Men coffee at Randall's Cypress Creek  
 9:30am World Day of Prayer – Church Women United  
 10:00a Weekly Women's Coffee  
 2pm Creel Memorial –outdoor sanctuary

**SATURDAY, March 3<sup>rd</sup>**

10a Conversational Spanish

6:30p FINANCE  
 6:30p Contemplative Prayer

**TUESDAY, March 6<sup>th</sup>**

9:30am Morning Prayer Service  
 10:00am Lectionary Discussion

**WEDNESDAY, March 7<sup>th</sup>**

9:30a A Matter of Balance  
 Noon Book Discussion  
 1:00p Easy Line Dancing Class  
 6:30p Book Discussion: Allison Pittman

**LOOKING FORWARD !!**

Sat. Mar 10<sup>th</sup> 9am UMW Meets  
 Sat Mar 10<sup>th</sup> 9:30a IAct Passport Program @  
 Congregation Shir Ami  
 Sun Mar 11<sup>th</sup> noon TRUSTEES  
 Mon Mar 12 6:30 FINANCE  
 Fri Mar 16<sup>th</sup> Newsletter Deadline  
 Sun Mar 18 3:30 Worship @ The Pointe

Tues Mar 20 9:30a Membership Care  
 Sat Mar 24 8a Open Doors  
 Sat Mar 24 9a Spring Clean Up Day  
 Thu Mar 29 7p Worship/ Maundy Thursday  
 Fri Mar 30 7p Worship/Good Friday  
 Sun Apr 1 7, 8:30, 10:45a Worship Easter

**Please check the Calendar at our website: [www.cpfumc.org](http://www.cpfumc.org)**

**ON-GOING HAPPENINGS !!**

**SUNDAY AFTERNOONS**

**YOUTH MEETINGS**

**MEALS NEEDED**

**Youth will be meeting...6p Sundays..!!**  
**Confirmation begins Sunday, Feb 4<sup>th</sup>**  
*through May 20<sup>th</sup> – noon -1:30*  
**PLEASE SIGN UP on back table** to  
*provide meals for the Youth*  
*Typically lunch for 10 people, dinner*  
*for 12 people.*

DATE	EVENT/ TIME	NAME/CONTACT
March 4	C/ Lunch 12pm	Debra Longoria
March 4	Dinner 6p	Sue Sidney
March 18	C/ Lunch 12pm	Irene Carrillo
March 18	Dinner 6p	Par Keys
March 25	C/ Lunch 12p	Carolyn Smith
March 25	Dinner 6p	Anabel Creel
April 8	C/ Lunch 12p	Anita Martin
April 8	Dinner 6p	Debra Longoria
April 15	C/ Lunch 12p	Ann Pattridge
April 15	Dinner 6p	Sue Sidney
April 22	C/ Lunch 12p	
April 22	Dinner 6p	
April 29	C/ Lunch 12p	Steve Howard
April 29	Dinner 6p	
May 5	C/ Retreat Snacks 10a	Debra Longoria
May 5	C/ Lunch 12p	Neil Howard
May 5	C/ Retreat Snacks 3p	Sue Sidney
May 6	Dinner 6pm	

**FEB./ MAR. .**

**CHOIR**

Starting back on Sunday January 21st for choir practice to get ready for Lent and Easter. Let me know if questions -Thanks, Jodi 512-633-0009

March 4th - I'm in Ireland - NO PRACTICE  
 March 11th - sing #2108 & practice  
 March 18th - I'm in Florida - NO PRACTICE

March 25th - sing "Lenten Prayer" & practice  
 March 29th - Holy Thursday sing "Wonderous Love" out of Easter book  
 March 30th - Good Friday sing "Kyrie" out of Easter book  
 April 1st - we shall see but thinking "Risen in Glory", "WOnderous Love" and "Kyrie"

**2018**

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

**MAKE PLANS**

**MAR. 7<sup>TH</sup>****METHODIST READING CLUB**YET  
TO  
COME:Wed. March 7, 2018 at 6:30p.m.

Allison Pittman, author from San Antonio, will lead a discussion of her recent novel "**Loving Luther**", a beautifully rendered historical romance, told from the point of view of Katherina von Bora (1525–46), the wife of Martin Luther, leader of the Protestant Reformation. *Library Journal* remarks that the book's "accessible writing infused with romantic tension creates a provocative and heartwarming read." Please join us for a night with the author..

Wed. Oct. 3, 2018 at 6:30p.m.

Novels by Katherine Reay  
**Dear Mr. Knightly; Lizzy & Jane; The Bronte Plot ; & The Austen Escape**  
Genre: General Fiction  
Leader: Katherine Reay

**MAR. 10<sup>TH</sup> 2018****UNITED METHODIST WOMEN****ALL WOMEN WELCOMED**

Faithful UMW , Mission Mamas, Thank you for your commitment to the UMW of CPFUMC. Our regularly scheduled gathering for planning, discussion, learning ... who shall UMW be in 2018?

**Saturday, March 10<sup>th</sup> @ 9am**

ALL Women welcome to join discussion of what we will be in 2018!!!

**STOCK SHELVES****BACKPACK MINISTRY****WHITESTONE ELEMENTARY**

Thank YOU for the continuing support for this ministry and to the ladies that pack and deliver the Backpacks to Whitestone Elementary....

**2 BREAKFASTS**(cereal, milk, fruit) **2 LUNCHESES**(main dish,+) **2 DINNERS**(main dish, veggies) **4 SNACKS****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 women, and have time for quiet reflection and plenty of laughter!

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.
- Registration will be online at [goodnewsomc.org](http://goodnewsomc.org).
- For more information, contact Pat Roberts at [patsrob@swbell.net](mailto:patsrob@swbell.net) or Sue Sidney
- **SPONSORED BY GOOD NEWS UMW**

**APRIL 15<sup>TH</sup>****CROP HUNGER WALKS**

CROP Walks are community-wide events sponsored by Church World Service and organized by local congregations or groups to raise funds to end hunger at home and around the world. We are having our event on April 15, 2018.

For Information or to donate now on-line Go Here: <https://www.crophungerwalk.org/leandertx/>

**Location:** Twin Lakes YMCA **Registration Time:** 1:30 p.m. **Walk Time:** 2:00 p.m.

**Contact:** Roger Brandimarte [rjbrandimarte@yahoo.com](mailto:rjbrandimarte@yahoo.com)

**TIDBITS****TIME RUNNING SHORT AS BISHOPS GATHER IN DALLAS**

DALLAS (UMNS) — Council of Bishops President Bruce R. Ough challenged colleagues to be open to changing their minds as they grapple with how to avoid a breakup of The United Methodist Church over homosexuality. The council, meeting this week, is refining options from the Commission on a Way Forward and faces a July deadline for petitions to next year's special General Conference. Sam Hodges reports.

**Read story** [http://www.umc.org/news-and-media/time-running-short-as-bishops-gather-in-dallas?mkt\\_tok=eyJpIjoiTVRWbFpEZGhNakEwTXpRMiIsInQiOiIiRlkyMzkzNVNta2Fzd1A4Q1RlVWo5K2VmUD](http://www.umc.org/news-and-media/time-running-short-as-bishops-gather-in-dallas?mkt_tok=eyJpIjoiTVRWbFpEZGhNakEwTXpRMiIsInQiOiIiRlkyMzkzNVNta2Fzd1A4Q1RlVWo5K2VmUD)

By Ruth Balinsky Friedman for The Washington Post

The Jewish holiday of **Purim**, like all holidays, has a story, complete with heroes and villains. Purim's story centers on two women: Queen Vashti and Queen Esther.

The **key character** of Purim has long been Queen Esther, who leads the Jewish people in the story to victory over the wicked plans of Haman, who wished to kill the Jews.

In fact, Wednesday night, the start of Purim, calls Jews to gather and read the Book of Esther. When I was growing up, little girls often came to synagogue dressed up as the beautiful Esther. But recent biblical scholarship has suggested that the true hero of the story is not Esther — who submitted to male power in her heroics — but her predecessor, Queen Vashti, who resisted.

In the first chapter of the book, **Vashti refuses to obey** King Achashverosh's demand to parade before the assembled guests, leading to the removal of Vashti and the search for a new queen. Thus, Vashti has been deservedly praised by feminists, myself included, for refusing to abide by her husband's demands that she display her physical beauty before his officers, especially when this refusal came at great risk to her life.

While it is fair to admire Vashti's actions, we also have to be careful to ensure that seeing Vashti as a hero doesn't have a negative effect on our understanding of Esther, who is in many ways Vashti's opposite.

**Esther's role in the story** is quite complicated. As a child I was taught that after Vashti was banished, Achashverosh (Ahasuerus) held a beauty pageant to find a new queen, and Esther was the most beautiful of them all. This all leads to Esther eventually saving the day, and the Jewish people.

But the text tells a different story. As part of this pageant, Esther was in fact one of the many young maidens who were taken against their will and forced to spend a night with the king. The text also tells us (Chapter One) that a new edict was established to force all women to submit to their husbands. To be a woman in Esther's time was to live a life of total submission to male authority. It was into this new environment that Esther was brought. She had no choice but to submit.

We have to be very careful about how we talk about who is a hero in the story. Traditionally, Esther has been praised and Vashti rejected as a foil to Esther. A recent feminist response has been to flip the paradigm and to embrace Vashti as a symbol of female empowerment, and in turn to see Esther as a symbol of female submission. But we see now that this **characterization is wrong**. Esther was a victim of abuse. She was taken from her home and brought into an environment in which to submit to male authority meant she would survive. She knew from Vashti what happened to women who fought back.

This is a **timely conversation**. In the past year, our society has undergone a rapid transformation in how we think about men and women, and the dynamics of power and abuse. This change is important because it means victims can speak out and know there is a much greater chance they can be heard.

As people tell their stories, we realize how horrifically pervasive sexual abuse has been. Women, and men, have been suffering in practically every corner of society and at every level. It has been happening everywhere, but not enough people were willing to listen, and as a result, people felt like they couldn't speak up.

As we read our sacred texts we must make the conscious **choice to see both Esther AND Vashti as heroes** of the story. Vashti is an incredible model for standing up and refusing to participate in something degrading. And Esther, tragically, is a model for what it means to be a victim of an abusive power figure, and to have to live with the abuse every day as she continued to persevere and achieve her own goals, in this case the overthrowing of Haman and saving her people.

Can we still celebrate Purim knowing what the background really was? To celebrate Purim is to celebrate the survival of our people in the face of those who want to destroy us — certainly a cause worth celebrating — and we should all seek to responsibly maximize our joy on this holiday. But as we cheer for Esther and Vashti, we must also remember that our victory in the Purim story was handed to us by a heroic woman who was being silenced and abused, right before our eyes.