

# HAPPENINGS this week at CPFUMC

05/09/2018

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

PLEASE find ALL of the church announcements and happenings on the website: <https://cpfumc.org>

## Church Was Supposed to Be an Alternative Society

Wednesday, May 9,  
2018

Living in community means living in such a way that others can access me and influence my life and that I can get "out of myself" and serve the lives of others. Community is a world where brotherliness and sisterliness are possible. By community, I don't mean primarily a special kind of structure, but a **network of relationships**. On the whole, we live in a society that's built not on community and cooperation but on individuality, greed, and competition—often resulting in oppressive economic systems, unnecessary suffering, and environmental devastation.

Adapted from [Richard Rohr: Essential Teachings on Love](#), ed. Joelle Chase and Judy Traeger (Orbis Books: 2018), 105-106.

## PRAYERS *for Help and Healing* :

### Recent Requests for Prayers:

Carol Wyatt, on hospice, son, Bruce, has moved her to a facility in Indiana.

Sandra Vinson, declining

Audrey Blount at Samford University going on a study journey to Barcelona, Spain

The marriage of India and Ethan How .

Marilyn Hartman, moved into Shenandoah Villa Assisted Living – Rm 1 :assistedliving@shenandoah.aol

Terry Smith on the rig towed into Gulf, from Sterling

Bryson ^ Kathy Nishineoso, flood damage on Kanai

Sylvia Carothers, Vickie Thompsons best friend, death of her grandson David Rodriguez.

Kevin Clancy, friend of Irene Carrillo, brain surgery last Tuesday

Dolores Keller, Pat Sowder's mom, grateful for tests that showed no cancer but a hiatal hernia.

Robert Verategui, laid off in a downsizing of his company. After 27 years of service may he find a job that uses his talents.

Richard Hartman, brother of Sterling, had a heart attack on 4/17 & it was caught early enough he has no heart damage. A stent was installed,

## PRAYERS *of THANKS!!* :

**THANKS** The love of all kinds of Mothers .....

**THANKS** Petting zoos with bunnies, goats, pigs and a pony to ride !!

**THANKS** A wonderful evening with Author **Christa Allen** with us From Houston to discuss "**Walking on Broken Glass**"

## Please RE-MEMBER with prayers and cards ....

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

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

Lillian Smith  
1912 S West Dr  
Leander, 78641

Diann Russell  
1503 N Woodstone  
Cedar Park, 78613

E. Duke Squibb  
Gracy Woods  
12042 Bittern Hollow  
Austin TX – 78758

Marsha Venable  
2112 West Riviera Drive  
Cedar Park, TX 78613

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

**SAT, MAY 19<sup>TH</sup>**

**YOUTH IN MISSION**

**APPALACHIAN SERVICE PROJECT**

**APPALACHIA SERVICE PROJECT GARAGE SALE**

Saturday, May 19th from 8am - 12pm

ASP Team will be hosting a garage sale in the Church parking lot. If you have items that you'd like to donate, please contact Bonnie at 512-983-7433. We will be happy to pick them up on Friday, May 18th.

**SUN MAY 13<sup>TH</sup>**

**ADULT SUNDAY STUDY GROUPS**

**9:45AM SUNDAYS**

Just a reminder the **Followers of the Word** Group started 1 Corinthians on Sunday, May 6<sup>th</sup>. For those interested in joining the class meets in the MMB Conference room (enter through office )

The Sunday **Discussion Group** is reading and sharing from the book "Three Simple Rules" by Bishop Rueben Job. This provocative book delves into John Wesley's rules simplified to (1) Do No Harm (2) Do Good (3) Stay in Love with God This Sunday we will continue our discussion with Rule #2 Do Good. **Join this group** in the MMB last room on the right at 9:45 !!

**FRIDAY, MAY 25**

**"STAND IN THE PLACE WHERE YOU LIVE" - DR. AMY LAURA HALL 7-8PM**



Berkeley UMC 2407 Berkeley Ave, Austin, TX, 78745

A talk and book signing by Duke Divinity Professor & Elder in the Rio Texas Conference, Rev. Dr. Amy Laura Hall.

How can churches and Christians faithfully learn, speak, and act about what matters where we are?

Amy Laura Hall has been writing at the intersection of faith and politics for two decades. She will facilitate a conversation about faith and the dreams working people hold in common. There will also be copies of her most recent book, Writing Home, With Love, for sale. Light refreshments and snacks will be provided. For more information or to RSVP, contact [office@berkeleyumc.org](mailto:office@berkeleyumc.org) or [512.447.6633](tel:512.447.6633).

*I have heard Rev. Hall speak previously and DO intend to Attend this talk at Berkeley.. Sue*

**JUNE 6-9TH**

**RIO TEXAS CONFERENCE UMC ANNUAL CONFERENCE**

Clergy and Lay Delegates from every church in the Rio TX Conference will be meeting at the American Bank Center in Corpus Christi, Wed. June 6- Friday, June 9<sup>th</sup> Pastor Peter and Pastor Bonnie will be attending along with the CPFUMC Lay Delegates, Bob & Karen Packard. Everyone is welcome to sit in the conference to learn what is happening in their church family. Find out all about it at <https://riotexas.org/ac2018> Which is also where you can learn which pastor is being appointed to which charge ..... etc...

**JUNE 11<sup>TH</sup> – 15<sup>TH</sup>**

**VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL**

**6-8PM**



**June 11<sup>th</sup> thru 15<sup>th</sup>, 2018**

**6pm to 8 pm**

**REGISTER YOUR CHILDREN/GRANDCHILDREN TODAY**

registration forms are on the church website, [www.cpfumc.org](http://www.cpfumc.org)

Our very own Mega Sports Vacation Bible School is coming soon! We welcome all church and community children entering Pre-K through 5th grade in the 2018-2019 school year to join us!

**We need YOU** to help make this year a success.

If you are volunteering with VBS or would like to learn how you can volunteer with VBS

Please **Contact:** Anna Mullen, [anna.c.mullen@gmail.com](mailto:anna.c.mullen@gmail.com) 512/297-6334

Amanda Theriot, [Amanda.theriot@icloud.com](mailto:Amanda.theriot@icloud.com) 512/934-8504

**SUNDAY AFTERNOONS**

**YOUTH MEETINGS**

**MEALS NEEDED**

**Youth will be meeting...6p Sundays..!!**

*Typically, dinner for 12 people.*

| <u>DATE</u> | <u>EVENT/ TIME</u> | <u>NAME/CONTACT</u> |
|-------------|--------------------|---------------------|
| 5/20        | Dinner 6pm         |                     |
| 5/27        | Dinner 6pm         |                     |
| 6/3         | Dinner 6pm         |                     |
| 6/10        | Dinner 6pm         |                     |

**MAY 2018****INFORMATION ON CHURCH VITALITY!**

| Month to Date Finances              |            | This Week's Attendance                             |
|-------------------------------------|------------|--|
|                                     |            | <b><u>May 6<sup>th</sup> !</u></b>                 |
| Anticipated expenses                | \$ 21,865. | <b><u>8:30 am</u></b><br>30 (Visitors:0)           |
| Contributions (1/4 <i>Sundays</i> ) | \$ 7,778.  |  |
| Needed (Surplus):                   | \$ 14,434. | <b><u>10:45am</u></b><br>85(Visitors:8)            |
| Additional Giving                   |            | <b><u>Sunday</u></b><br>Children: 21<br>Adults: 34 |
| Capital Campaign (Parking Lot)      | \$ 185.    |  |
| \$2 For 20                          | \$ 35.     |  |
| True Vineyards (Rwandan Widow)      | \$ 14.     |  |
| Communion (Childs Haven )           | \$ 498.    |  |
| Youth (Tacos fundraiser)            | \$ 335.    |  |

**CALENDAR OF EVENTS****WEDNESDAY, May 9<sup>th</sup>**

1:00p Easy Line Dancing Class

**THURSDAY May 10<sup>th</sup>****FRIDAY, May 11<sup>th</sup>**

9:00am Men coffee at Randall's Cypress Creek

10:00a Weekly Women's Coffee

**SATURDAY, May 12<sup>th</sup>**

7a UMM @ LUMC

8am How Wedding (*alternate location*)

9a UMW

**SUNDAY, May 13<sup>th</sup>**

8:30a WORSHIP, Come, Celebrate, Communion

9:45a Sunday School for all ages;

10:45a WORSHIP, Come, Celebrate ,

6:00p NO YOUTH

**MONDAY, May 14<sup>th</sup>**

6:30p Contemplative Prayer

6:30p FINANCE

**TUESDAY, May 15<sup>th</sup>**

9:30am Morning Prayer Service

10:00am Lectionary Bible Discussion

**WEDNESDAY, May 16<sup>th</sup>**

9:30a Membership Care

1:00p Easy Line Dancing Class

**LOOKING FORWARD !!**

Fri May 18 Newsletter Input  
 Sun May 20 Pentecost Wear Bright, fiery colors Confirmation  
 Mon May21 6:30p CHURCH COUNCIL

Thu May 24 Last Day Childs Haven  
 Sat May 26 8am Open Doors

***Please check the Calendar at our website: [www.cpfumc.org](http://www.cpfumc.org)*****ON-GOING HAPPENINGS !!****APRIL****CHOIR****Schedule:**

Sunday May 13th - sing "Agnus Dei"

---Thanks, Jodi 512-633-0009

Choir finished until late September, Thank YOU

**2018****UPCOMING EVENTS****MAKE PLANS**

**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 every week during school ....

**2 BREAKFASTS**(cereal, milk, fruit) **2 LUNCHES**(main dish,+) **2 DINNERS**(main dish, veggies) **4 SNACKS**

**JULY 16-20****OPEN HEARTS SUMMER CAMP****9:00 AM - NOON**

**Open heARTS** Summer Camp is becoming a tradition at Cedar Park First United Methodist Church. We invite all children ages 4-12. Come join us for a fun filled day of art projects, music and music history, movement and games! Bring a sack lunch and wear tennis shoes. Open heARTS Summer Camp has a per-participant charges shown below. Advanced registration is encouraged. Registration is usually opened about a month before the actual event starts. The next Open heARTS Summer Camp is scheduled for July 16-20, 2018 from 9:00 am until 12:00 noon. Registration is open now. Click on the button below to register online.

**Fee Schedule:** \$175 – per child (payable by July 1, 2018)

Fees must be paid at the time of registration, no later than July 1, 2018. Bring or mail your check made out to “Cedar Park First UMC” or “CPFUMC” and designated in the memo field for “Open heARTS Summer Camp” to the church office at 600 West Park Street, Cedar Park, TX 78613.

**FEED THE HUNGRY****HILL COUNTRY COMMUNITY MINISTRIES****RED BAGS**

**PLEASE** Fill the HEB bags in celebration of Spring !!! -

*Welcome to our new delegate to HCCM:* Morgan Wertman: [Notaspamfan@yahoo.com](mailto:Notaspamfan@yahoo.com) 419-212-2935

**I ACT****PASSPORT: CEDAR PARK/HILL COUNTRY****Interfaith Action of Central Texas**

***Please join iACT as we expand the Passport Program and Red Bench Conversations into Cedar Park and the Hill Country!***

May – Baptist Service (Location & Date TBD)

June 19 – Red Bench: Love

July 13 – Passport: Islamic Service

August – Red Bench: TBD Sept. 23 – Passport: Mormon

October – Red Bench: TBD

November 18 – iACT’s 34th Interfaith Thanksgiving Service

December – Community Celebration: Pajama Party (date and time TBD)

**WED, OCT 3<sup>RD</sup>****METHODIST READING CLUB****6:30PM**

Please come and enjoy the discussion even if you have not yet finished reading the book.

YET  
TO  
COME:

Wed. Oct. 3, 2018 at 6:30p.m.  
Novels by Katherine Reay - Genre: General Fiction  
***Dear Mr. Knightly; Lizzy & Jane;***  
***The Bronte Plot ; & The Austen Escape***  
Leader: Katherine Reay

**TIDBITS****WHEN THE TOPIC IS TOUGH, WE NEED TO TALK — AND LISTEN**

When the called session of **General Conference convenes in February 2019**, delegates will consider a report from the Council of Bishops growing out of the work of the Commission on a Way Forward. The 2016 General Conference authorized the Council of Bishops to create the commission to provide recommendations addressing questions around human sexuality, mission and unity that would move the denomination from its current impasse.

As they prepare for and learn the bishops’ recommendations for how The United Methodist Church can be in ministry with, by and for LGBTQI people, many United Methodist churches and annual conferences are creating settings for people to engage in meaningful dialogue about sensitive topics. Those who are considering developing similar events may benefit from the strategies of others already active in the process.

**Define the goal.**

It’s important to set a reasonable expectation and understand the goal of the event. Before and after healthy dialogue, people will hold differing opinions. Defining “success” in advance may avoid disappointment. Planners may benefit from identifying the reasons for engaging in conversation.

The Rev. Gray Southern, a district superintendent and chair of the 2019 General Conference delegation from the North Carolina Conference, has participated in **several events considering the commission's work**. Each, he says, was designed "to allow folks to come together to voice their view points for the sake of the gospel and the church." Southern thinks churches sometimes avoid challenging conversations out of fear "that you're going to cause debate or conflict," but really, he said, "you're helping people work toward deeper understanding."

He sees difficult conversations as opportunities to "help people understand the pitfalls that lead to misunderstanding and disunity" and to model "ways to remain in communion with each other even when you disagree."

Marcia McFee, worship designer for "**Table Talks, a series of events happening in the Greater Northwest Episcopal Area**," mentioned two goals: deeper love and deeper spirituality.

Being willing to talk about the things that matter helps us "begin to accept ourselves so that we might love each other better," she said. "As long as things stay taboo and uncomfortable, the less opportunity we have to really deepen our spiritual lives. And in the end, that's the important thing."

The Rev. Jessica Moffatt, lead pastor at First United Methodist Church in Tulsa, Oklahoma, is a trained mediator who sees her life work as guiding people to "discern the will of God" and to "help people not hurt each other."

She says the process of discerning the will of God together requires "holy indifference," which involves "suspending everything you think you know," as well as identifying your biases and laying them aside.

"If we can't suspend our ideas," she said, "perhaps we are hindering the work God wants to do."

Create an invitational space.

Setting an environment that feels safe and welcoming is one crucial part of any meaningful dialogue process. Some churches find it helpful to create a covenant for how people will treat one another.

For events in the Greater Northwest Area, the covenant asks participants to: "stay curious; be kind; listen with the same amount of passion with which I want to be heard."

McFee suggests another way to create safety is to invite sharing, rather than require it.

"I think more people end up sharing if they are allowed to not share," she said. "Give permission to interact as needed. If people don't feel coerced, they are more likely to do it. People always have the option to pass and not share."

One fundamental principle Moffatt has observed is that "every person wants to be fully heard." Allowing space for sharing and for empathetic listening — also called active listening or reflective listening — is key to conducting healthy conversations.

"Speak carefully, using language about you, not about the other party," Moffatt said "Describe what you experienced and how you feel. Describe the outcome you would like to see. Take care not to inflame and accuse. Listen carefully.

Restate what you are hearing. Ask questions. Listen with empathy.

"You would be amazed at how much new information comes out when people listen to each other," she said. "People are able to tell their stories and why they feel the way they do. You sometimes learn that the motive for what they are doing is not the motive you thought it was."

Find shared values.

When people disagree about any topic, it can be helpful to search for common ground. Regardless of points of difference, finding shared values can create a positive foundation for further conversation.

Southern noted the importance of allowing "space for the Holy Spirit to be made known in hearts and minds."

He said it can be helpful for church members to remind one another that "they all claim the same Christ and the same missional mind. They just see these topics differently."

McFee finds it useful to utilize a common ritual or story to emphasize what people have in common.

"Coming to the table is a common story," she said, noting that Holy Communion "binds us as humans in the midst of our differences."

Community can be another shared value that helps people work together, Moffatt said, adding that there are biblical encouragements about "remaining in relationship and being in the body of Christ."

"That's what does the work of the kingdom," she said.

Emphasize renewed connection.

At the conclusion of some conversations Southern observed, he said participants left with "new understanding and appreciation of people who have a different view point."

In designing worship, McFee chose Communion as a symbol to help people remember that everyone encounters difficulty and also provided an activity to encourage participants to hold one another in prayer after the event.

"We all find ourselves in moments where sometimes we just want this cup to pass from us," she said. "It's so hard to be in community in this situation. The cup can't pass from us, but we are not alone."

Though conflict can be challenging, Moffatt said "managing conflict well can actually improve the relationship between the parties concerned."

Moffatt encourages participants to offer gratitude as the conversation comes to a close.

"At the end, whether there has been full agreement or not, allow for a time of gratitude," she suggests. "Express appreciation for the listening that has been done and the care that has been given for the relationship or friendship itself. Acknowledge if there has been anything new learned."