



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

Cedar Park First United Methodist Church

# Connections

## Newsletter

### The Posaunenchor Is Coming!

Submitted by Neil Howard

What is Posaunenchor, anyway? Posaunenchor is a German word made, as the Germans like to do, by sticking two words together: Posaunen means “trumpet” or “trombone” and chor means “choir.” So Posaunenchor means “trumpet choir” or “trombone choir” or “brass choir.”



About 4 months from now, October 18-21, 2018, we will have a visit from a Posaunenchor from Hamm, Germany. They will be coming to Cedar Park First UMC to play at our worship services that weekend and also to play a concert at Highland Estates. This will be a wonderful opportunity for a cultural exchange. Our plan is to provide some Hill Country hospitality by providing accommodations for the band members in our homes and sharing a couple of meals and some Austin sightseeing with them while they are here.

We expect a group of about 20 to 30 musicians with ages from 12 to 62. Our German guests are pretty self-sufficient. All of them speak some English, most of them quite well. This is an opportunity for an informal cultural exchange. More information will be forthcoming as October nears.



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## JESUS ROCK STAR CORNER

Submitted by Carolyn Smith

The children were excited with the coming of the end of their school year. They have so many activities and preparing for their summer vacation activities.

The excitement also extended to our Sunday school class. We had big changes by the advancement of some children from the younger class to the older children class to the youth class. We welcomed Tony into the older children's class and the youth welcomed Gwen into their class.



Anders moved into the older children's class.



Jozi advanced into the youth class.

These are all amazing children who are taking another journey in their life. We pray it will be an exciting adventure.

ROCKSTARS cont. from p. 2

## Preparing for Father's Day.



The men in the children's lives are super heroes. Whether it is their father, grandfather, or another member of this church they help guide the children in their daily and faith lives. The children wanted to make a small gift to say thank you.

Stain glass always brightens windows. The children are making a stain glass decoration for their fathers.



Father's Day was here and it was time to thank our fathers and the other men in our lives for their loving leadership. Tony read a poem during first service and Josie read a poem during second service.

Please consider attending our upcoming events.

All elementary age children are invited.

**EMPOWER on October 16 at 6pm**

Children gather and demonstrate their talents.

If you love working with children, please consider joining us in the older children's Sunday school class. All Safe Gatherings rules will apply.

Contact Carolyn Smith for more details.

## Electronic Giving Available on CPFUMC Website

Submitted by Steve Howard

Cedar Park First UMC, like many other churches, provides an opportunity to make contributions electronically, sometimes called e-Giving. e-Giving can include giving through a website using credit cards or electronic funds transfer. It can also include using mobile apps or giving via text messages since about 80% of adults have smart phones. Kiosks and similar devices are another way to make electronic payments.

Why does our Church offer e-Giving? Increasingly payments of all kinds are being made electronically. It provides an additional option for givers and enables members to give even if they are not present in church on Sunday. Millennials, who are between ages 25 to 34, prefer electronic giving as opposed to cash or checks. And older age groups are increasingly using electronic payments as well.

For churches e-Giving can provide steadier income since givers can contribute even when they are out of town or not in church for some other reason. Some studies suggest that those who give electronically actually give more. e-Giving systems also automatically generate records that church administrators use to track contributions and church income.

Currently, you can "e-Give" to our Church through our website found at **cpfumc.org**. At the top of the home page you click on **Donate**. Once you click on that you are guided through the process of electronic giving. Payments are processed by Vanco, a national company that specializes in church electronic payment systems.

This system is very flexible and provides several options for you. You can set up a profile (account) if you want to make periodic or recurring donations. You can

specify what you want the payment to support--your pledge, apportionments, the Church building fund or other Church ministry. Finally, you can make donations through your credit card, or through your bank account. Receipts are automatically generated and you quickly receive an email from the Church acknowledging your contribution.

Supporting our Church with your gifts is important and e-Giving is one more option that you might find convenient and efficient to use.

### Rio Texas Conference 2018

Submitted by Bob Packard

The theme of the Rio Texas Conference 2018 was "From Come and See to Go and Do." There were teaching sessions, reports, workshop sessions, and worship services among other activities. I want to concentrate on the "Go and Do" part of the theme. As members of United Methodists Committee on Relief or UMCOR, we can and have made a difference.

Even before Harvey made landfall, 47 Early Response Teams from Rio Texas Conference were in action, as well as sixty-one teams from other conferences. Over \$1.5 million was initially received from Rio Texas churches. UMCOR contributed nearly \$6 million and was instrumental in acquiring \$4.2 million from FEMA.

Much has been accomplished since Harvey but the amount remaining to be done is even more daunting. The Harvey ERT has served 417 clients, worked 16,592 hours, Tarped 155 roofs, cleared 113 sites by chainsaw teams. UMCOR is still at work, even when the headlines are gone.



## Thank you for a Great Mega Sports VBS!

We welcomed 55 children entering Pre-K through 5th grade for our Mega Sports VBS camp this past June 11-15. Children had an opportunity to do soccer, basketball, cheerleading or martial arts over the course of the week and learn about God's love through Bible stories and small group discussion. Friday, everyone was invited to celebrate what the children had learned and enjoy demonstrations and refreshments. It was a wonderful week of learning and fellowship! You can find a slideshow of the week's activities on YouTube if you search for CPFUMC.



We were able to serve our church and community children free of charge due to our gracious volunteers and generous donations. Below is a list of our fabulous volunteers who dedicated their evenings to serve at VBS, so be sure to thank these people when you see them next:

Bonnie How  
Par Keys  
Gigi Heermans  
Chuck Carrillo  
Stephanie Talley  
Karen Packard  
Charles Bland

Sue Sidney  
Barbara King  
Debra Longoria  
Elizabeth Talley  
Kevin Middleton  
Glenda Morrison  
Sarah Price

Pat Sowder  
Irene Carrillo  
Anabel Creel  
Carolyn Smith  
Colleen Litaker  
Laurel Fabian  
Shawn Dubler

VBS continued on p. 6

**VBS continued from p. 5**

Keyla  
Jett  
David  
Luke

Kianna  
Jozi  
Duncan  
Karsten

Abigail  
Darik  
Allie  
Spring

Gwen  
Sarah  
Ashlynn  
Asuka

Thank you so much, and if you have any feedback or want to be more involved next year, please reach out to: Anna Mullen ([anna.c.mullen@gmail.com](mailto:anna.c.mullen@gmail.com), 512-297-6334) and Amanda Theriot ([amanda.theriot@icloud.com](mailto:amanda.theriot@icloud.com), 512-934-8504)



## **ICE CREAM SOCIAL**

**Thursday, July 26 at 6:30pm in the Sanctuary**

**What flavor of homemade ice cream will you bring?**



What is your favorite flavor? Is it traditional or an exotic flavor. No matter your favorite, please plan to join us! All are invited! If you do not make homemade ice cream, please plan to come anyway. You may come as a guest or bring your favorite store brand of ice cream; it will not be part of the judging. A freezer will be provided a few days before to hold the ice cream, if you wish to bring your ice cream early. Plan to stay after the announcement of winners for a game of *“Let’s Make a Deal”*. You never know what will be required to be the next contestant. So pack your bag accordingly.

If you would like to be part of the planning team, please contact Carolyn Smith, [carolynsmith2215@gmail.com](mailto:carolynsmith2215@gmail.com).

## Appalachia Service Project 2018

Wow! What an amazing experience serving with Appalachia Service Project (ASP) in Hyden, Kentucky. Each missionary shared a brief account of their trip below:

### **Elizabeth Talley:**

Considering that this was my fourth year on ASP, I had a pretty good idea of what it would be like this year. This year we got a home that needed a lot more work done than previous houses we have worked on. Since we brought 12 people, we needed a house that two teams could work on. Therefore, there were three rooms in the house that needed a lot of work done unlike previous years where there was only two rooms at most that needed work done on. This left me not feeling as satisfied as I usually do on ASP since I worked a little bit on each room and not on one from start to finish. However, looking back at how much work we did as a whole, we got a lot more work done compared to previous years. We removed the floors and put OSB down in one room; insulated and put OSB down and built a wall in the next room; sanded and put down vinyl plank flooring, and trim in the kitchen; completed a water drainage ditch around the house outside. Therefore, looking back at it, our tiny church from Texas made a giant impact on that family of five in Kentucky.

### **Mark How:**

What an amazing rip we had this year with ASP. I truly believe that God has sent the exact right people to serve the family and each other on this mission trip. From start to finish, we all worked, travelled, laughed and cried alongside one another. I am often driving by the desire to “get all the things done” when we’ve been given particular tasks to resolve. This year, more than ever, we were pleasantly involved and close with our family. There is more to ASP than the construction itself. Yes, there is building to be done, but God has other building that He is asking us to do, and that comes in the shape of building relationship. I feel that I have yet again been blessed by more than our family that we have just served. I have learned about patience and encouragement and the understanding that a quiet moment with an autistic child may plant deeper seeds or build stronger walls than any we could have put up this week.

We have amazing young men and women that made up our team. I was blown away by their perseverance, patience and desire throughout the week. They were all so willing to engage with the family and that made all the difference this year. They all worked incredibly hard and long in hot and less desirable conditions. In the end, we did “get all the things done” and MORE! But more importantly we built a relationship with really great people who have real world issues. Well done ASP Team! Well Served!

### **Hannah Long:**

This year for ASP, we repaired several floors in this mobile home on the side of a mountain (Kentucky residents considered it a hill). On the outside it might have looked like we did a reasonable workload, but the more relevant impact this trip had was on us and our family. We built relationships working side by side with our crew and Bryan, the father. Anytime I went outside to get a new tool, Melissa, the mother, would strike up a conversation and I would forget which tool I was supposed to be getting. She really was the sweetest, strongest, and most easy going person I have ever met. (Kind of a weird combo of adjectives) All together the trip opened my eyes to joy even through extreme poverty. Without a doubt, I will be going next year if CPFUMC will have me!

### **Spring Middleton:**

It was a very eye-opening experience and I’m glad that I went. Working together with people I know very little about helped us build a strong friendship. Using tools that I’ve never used before, and being able to see our work improve each day made me want to try new things even more.

### **Morgan Walker:**

One specific experience that I encountered on my first ASP trip was the family. ASP is where people of Christ sign up to work on someone’s house who isn’t as fortunate as we are. Our group removed floors, installed floors, built a wall, and installed a drainage ditch all for an amazing family. This family was such an inspiration to me. At first, I didn’t understand how someone with so little could be so happy. I later realized

that they took what they had and were grateful for it. They didn't complain or compare what they had to others. Bryan (the dad) and Melissa (the mom) are the type of people I want to grow up to be – kind, grateful and happy. I'd like to think that this mission trip opened my eyes and made me more thankful for what I have.

**Luke Talley:**

I was very nervous for this trip because I didn't know what the family was going to be like, and because this was my first time. But when I met the family and saw the house, all the stress went away. The house was a very small place for a family of five but, for some reason, I felt comfortable. The family was very sweet family with two children with autism. We ended up getting a lot done on the house this time. This was an awesome experience for me. I could tell stories all day!

**Will Talley:**

I have attended ASP for 3 years now and I can say the experience on this one was the most rewarding out of all the other years because of a combination of how much work we got done and the deep relationship we built with the family. Some of the work included removing floors, building a wall and filling in a drainage ditch with gravel but the most important part of the mission was getting to know the family. They were very kind and helpful throughout the week and it was a privilege to get to know them. The worst part about this trip was driving 17 hours there and back but I can say overall this was one of the most fulfilling weeks of my life.

**Jett Heermans:**

This was one of the best trips I have ever been on. I got to make a lot of friends and I met one of the best families I have done work with. There was Bryan, who was always willing to have a conversation with me about video games and/or help us with whatever we were doing. There is Bryson, who was one of the sweetest little boys I ever got to talk to. Every time you sat with Melissa, there was no way you were going to leave without having a long conversation with her.

**Karsten Lundstrom:**

This was my first year at ASP and I'm so happy I went. The First day at the work site was so much fun cause when we met the family they were really welcoming. It made the whole week more fun than I thought. Bryan the dad was really funny and always wanting to help he was super strong so it made some of the heavy lifting not so heavy. At the end of the week I didn't want to leave I wanted to stay and keep working but I was happy with all the work we had done as a team and I made new friends that made it even more fun.

**Bonnie How:**

Happy 50<sup>th</sup> Birthday ASP! It has been such a great experience serving with ASP and missionaries from CPFUMC for 4 years. Each year is great in its' own way, but this year has been such a blessing to me personally in so many ways. First of all, this was the largest group that we've ever taken with 12 missionaries travelling together. Each person is uniquely gifted and I was reminded by our Arrival Day Devo that I should embrace their gifts and let God do what God will through each of them. I got out of the way! Instead of worrying that we weren't getting enough done, or worrying that we were being lazy, taking too many rests, I relaxed and enjoyed that fact that the students were enjoying spending time with the family. They were getting to know Bryan, Melissa and the children! I delighted in the fact that each person came to know the family! Secondly, we encountered some problems, especially car trouble, but those problems became opportunities for Bryan (our homeowner) to serve us. He was right there, ready with jumper cables and tools in hand. He was thrilled to be of service to us, and I especially, was so thankful for his mechanical expertise! Third, we all came to know each other more deeply and that is great for our youth group. Our group has grown over the past year but we don't often have time to really get to know each other. Long road trips make great get to know you experiences! Finally, serving with some repeat missionaries really showed me how God is faithfully growing each of us. They have grown in maturity and faith.

Overall the biggest thrill for me this year was that instead of feeling like we were in mission TO someone, we were in mission WITH a family. Praise God for calling us to serve.



## Park Street Frontage Landscape Project

Submitted by Neil Howard

One of the Trustees goals for 2018 is to improve our care of God's creation and gifts to us. We started the recycle project to work toward this goal. Another step along this journey is to landscape our property along our Park Street frontage.

When we finished the parking lot project in 2016, we realized that not only did we have adequate parking, but we also had some inviting landscaping bordering the parking lot to

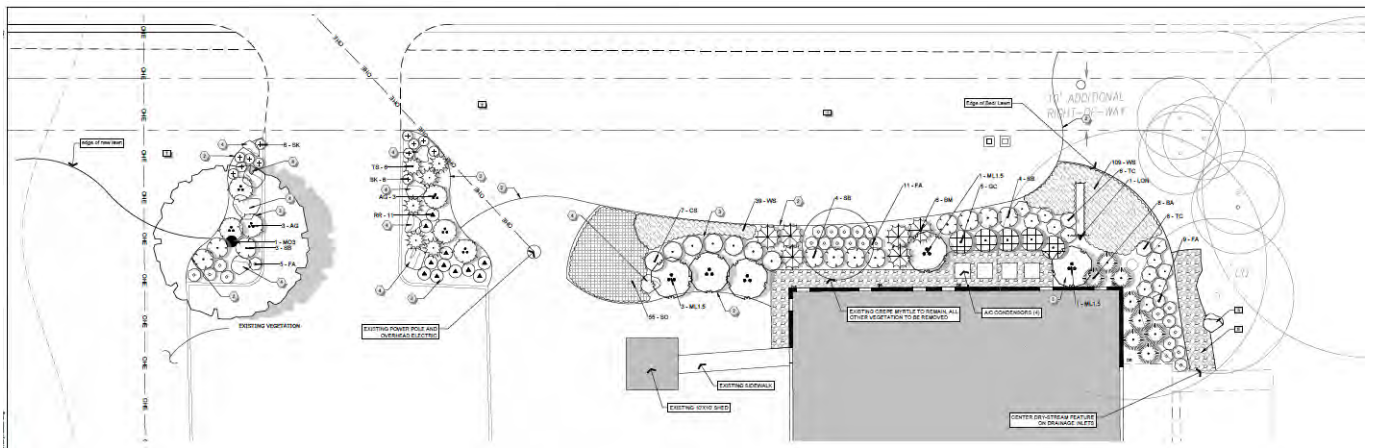


attract people who drive by. The parking lot landscaping is in sharp contrast with the existing landscaping farther to the west along Park Street.

Some of the goals of this landscape project are

- Blend well with our existing landscaping on our property along Park Street.
- It needs to eliminate the mud problem for parking in the MMB parking lot.
- It needs to shield the 4 HVAC units from view from Park St.
- All native live oak trees and large pine tree are to be retained.
- Any plants, trees and shrubs to be added should be native varieties, drought tolerant and deer resistant.
- Our goal is to make our Park Street frontage an inviting view from the road.
- Screen the shed from Park Street as much as possible while allowing for clear access to the shed front door.

The Trustees have solicited a landscaping plan for our Park Street frontage west of the main parking lot. Blair Landscape Architecture, LLC, the same firm that landscaped the parking lot



and the Memorial Outdoor Sanctuary, has recently delivered a preliminary landscape plan for this area.

The preliminary landscape plan is now available online and in the narthex for review. A large copy of this plan is posted in the narthex at church. A PDF copy is posted at the project web page online. Your comments are solicited as soon as possible. Comments can be made online via the project web page at <https://cpfumc.org/BLA> or to any member of the Trustees.

### Financing

The Park Street Frontage landscape plan costs \$1800. We plan to pay for it via a \$600 grant from the Memorial Fund, a \$600 grant from the Endowment Fund and \$600 in donations from members. If you would like to contribute to this landscape project indicate "Park Street Frontage Landscape" on your donation. There is no impact on our operating budget.

The project constructions costs: removing the existing shrubs, purchasing the plants, dirt, mulch and constructing the project and irrigation system once the plan is finalized, will be on a pay-as-you-go basis. As we are able to raise funds, we will build the project. A project cost estimate will be produced once the landscape plan is finalized.

Take a look at the preliminary plan online or in the narthex, offer any comments you may have and contribute toward the realization of our goal to improve our care of God's creation and gifts to us.

CPFUMC is in the news! Check out this Hill Country News article:

<http://www.hillcountrynews.com/stories/cedar-park-church-offering-free-caregiver-classes-this-summer,77338>

**DON'T MISS OUT!**  
**WE HAVE MANY THINGS TO DO AT CPFUMC**

(See our calendar for times)

**LOOKING AHEAD:**

- |                |  |
|----------------|--|
| July 16—20     | <b>Open HeArts Camp</b>                              |
| July 25—Aug 29 | <b>Powerful Tools for Caregivers</b> —each Wednesday |
| July 26        | <b>Ice Cream Social</b> – open to all                |
| September 29   | <b>Congregation Work Day</b>                         |
| Early October  | <b>Pumpkins arrive!</b>                              |
| October 13     | <b>EMPOWER</b> – open to all elementary age children |
| October 25     | <b>Chili Cook Off</b> – open to all                  |

**WEEKLY REGULARS:**

- |                |                                    |
|----------------|------------------------------------|
| Sunday evening | Youth                              |
| Monday         | Centering Prayer                   |
| Tuesday        | Morning Prayer Service             |
| Tuesday        | Bible Study                        |
| Wednesday      | Easy Line Dancing                  |
| Wednesday      | Buckles and Bows Square<br>Dancing |
| Thursday       | Tai Chi exercise class             |
| Friday         | Men's coffee at Randall's          |
| Friday         | Ladies coffee in sanctuary         |

**MONTHLY REGULARS:**

- Every 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday:  
United Methodist Women  
Turning faith, hope and love into action on behalf of women, children and youth around the world.
- Every 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday:  
Open Doors—CPFUMC members and attendees volunteer to help at University UMC in Austin serving brunch to the homeless and those in need. Contact Pastor Bonnie for more information.

See full calendar online at  
<https://cpfumc.org/find-an-event/>

# CPFUMC July 2018

Cedar Park First United Methodist Church, CARE Calendar, Child's Haven Events, Choir, CP1UMC Youth, Jul 2018 (Central Time)  
 Other Groups, Pumpkin Patch, SCOUTS, United Methodist Men, United Methodist Women

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 8:30am - Worship 9am - Music Camp @ 9:45am - Sunday 10:45am - Worship 6pm - Youth @	2 11am - Talley Piano 2pm - ESL - GED @ 6:30pm - NO 7:30pm - Centering	3 9:30am - Morning 10am - Bible Study 10:30am - Talley 7:30pm - AA Men's	4 1pm - Easy Line	5 9:30am - Tai Chi 10:30am - Disciple	6 6:30pm - Alcoholics	7
8 8:30am - Worship 9:45am - Sunday 10:45am - Worship 6pm - NO Youth @	9 11am - Talley Piano 2pm - ESL - GED @ 6:30pm - FINANCE 7:30pm - Centering	10 9:30am - Morning 10am - Bible Study 10:30am - Talley 7:30pm - AA Men's	11 1pm - Easy Line	12 9:30am - Tai Chi 10:30am - Disciple	13 6:30pm - Alcoholics	14 9am - UMW Meets
15 8:30am - Worship 9:45am - Sunday 10:45am - Worship 3:30pm - Worship @ 6pm - NO Youth @	16 9am - OPEN HEARTS 11am - Talley Piano 2pm - ESL - GED @ 6:30pm - NO 7:30pm - Centering	17 9am - OPEN HEARTS 9:30am - Morning 10am - Bible Study 10:30am - Talley 7:30pm - AA Men's	18 9am - OPEN HEARTS 9:30am - Mbrship 1pm - Easy Line 6:30pm - Buckles	19 9am - OPEN HEARTS 9:30am - Tai Chi 10:30am - Disciple	20 NEWSLETTER Input 9am - OPEN HEARTS 6:30pm - Alcoholics	21
22 8:30am - Worship 9:45am - Sunday 10:45am - Worship 6pm - NO Youth @	23 11am - Talley Piano 2pm - ESL - GED @ 7:30pm - Centering	24 9:30am - Morning 10am - Bible Study 10:30am - Talley 7:30pm - AA Men's	25 9:30am - Powerful 1pm - Easy Line 6:30pm - Buckles	26 9:30am - Tai Chi 10:30am - Disciple 6:30pm - Ice Cream	27 6:30pm - Alcoholics	28
29 8:30am - Worship 9:45am - Sunday 10:45am - Worship 6pm - Youth @	30 11am - Talley Piano 2pm - ESL - GED @ 7:30pm - Centering	31 9:30am - Morning 10am - Bible Study 10:30am - Talley 7:30pm - AA Men's	1 9:30am - Powerful 1pm - Easy Line 6:30pm - Buckles	2 9:30am - Tai Chi 10:30am - Disciple	3 6:30pm - Alcoholics	4