



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

Cedar Park First United Methodist Church

Connections

Newsletter

Adult Sunday School at Cedar Park First UMC

Submitted by Steve Howard

You may think Sunday school is primarily for children and youth, or is something you did as a child. It is true that Sunday schools were initially founded in England to provide academic and Christian education for poorer children who did not have access to public or private education. John Wesley, the founder of Methodism, was a supporter of Sunday school and one of the earliest Sunday schools was founded by Hannah Ball, a Methodist laywoman. Sunday school can also be important for adults and John Wesley saw ongoing study, particularly of scripture, as a "means of grace". While God's grace cannot be earned, Wesley believed that praying, holy communion, fasting, worship and study help sustain us in God's grace, encouraging us to grow in our faith.

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Park Street Landscape Project: THANK YOU!!!

Submitted by Neil Howard

After a tremendous effort by the congregation to spread the mulch, our Park Street Landscaping project is currently 97% complete. We are just waiting for the weather to warm up in May so we can seed the lawn with Blackjack Bermuda grass. The financial side of this project was also a great effort and success. Thirty-six individuals and families contributed financially to this project, many of them more than once. We were able to raise \$23,503. Combined with the \$4,800 grant from the Endowment Fund and the \$600 grant from the Memorial Committee, this project has been completely paid for. The Trustees wish to thank everyone who participated by their donations of labor or money or both! Once the lawn is in and growing, we can dedicate this beautification project to the glory of God as a delight that we, our neighbors and passers-by can enjoy for years to come!

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Correction:

Last month we published an article which incorrectly stated the location of the chess classes that Sergio Longoria teaches. He teaches chess classes at the **Cedar Park Public Library** on Sunday afternoons.

Jesus Rock Star Corner

As we continued our studies of the Resurrection, the Rock Stars had fun learning of Jesus' experiences. We explored and discussed many things.



The younger class, Leland, Rachel, and Josie studied activities of Palm Sunday.



Some of the children made Palm greeting cards



In our studies of Jesus' death, we made Resurrection Rolls. Mason, James, Rachel, and Kaitlyn made tombs, covered the body with oils and spices, sealed the tombs, bake, and best of all they were delicious.



Mason and Tony are making Scripture balls. These scriptures remind us how Jesus wants us to love and treat others.

The Lenton Season ended, he is Risen. It is time for our celebration, and the Easter Egg Hunt began.



Eggs are everywhere.



We hurried to find the special prize eggs.



So precious.



Some of the children caught the Easter Bunny.



Who found the special prize eggs?



Addison loves the Easter Bunny.



Some of our children found the special prize eggs.

Quickly before the Easter Bunny needed to hop along, he gave these girls a quick hug



The egg hunt was a huge success. Thank you to all who made this possible. Special thanks for the candy donations, the Easter Bunny for stopping, our photographer, Ashlyn Short, and to all who help stuff eggs and organize



A Child's Haven Happenings

Submitted by Lesley Foyt

April was a fun and busy month at A Child's Haven. We planted flowers, learned all about space, studied dinosaurs, and had wonderful Easter Egg Hunt! The children learned about the meaning of Easter this month and enjoyed using resurrection eggs. These eggs help tell the story of the resurrection with symbols the kids can touch while the teacher tells a little story about each one. Another fun activity this month was watching the life cycle of a butterfly with live caterpillars. We are waiting for them to emerge and then we will release them outside!

On May 4th we will be having our May the 4th Be With You fundraiser to raise money for our scholarship fund as well as needed classroom supplies and equipment. The time is from 5:00-8:00 pm in the sanctuary and tickets are \$10 for adults and children are free. We will have a catered dinner from Gino's Italian, a silent auction, a magic show and lots of activities for the kiddos. We welcome all Star Wars attire! Tickets are on sale in the office for \$10 per adult. Children are free.

Our last day of the school year will be May 16th. Our pre-k and kinder bridge classes will graduate in this day as well. We are so proud of them and know they are ready for their next adventure!



We are in the midst of planning for the upcoming MEGA Sports VBS, Monday, June 17 through Friday, June 21 from 6pm to 8pm each day.

We need a lot of help. All volunteers must be Safe Sanctuary trained. If you are available and can help, please let us know and plan to attend the upcoming meetings. If you worked the event in 2018 you probably have Safe Sanctuary training; it is good for two years. If you need training, it will can be arranged.

For anyone who wishes to be part of the event planning:

May 19 VBS volunteers noon

For all volunteers who will be working the event:

June 16 VBS decorating 3pm

June 17 -21 MEGA Sports VBS 6-8pm

Please contact Debra Longoria, Amanda Theriot, or Carolyn Smith for further information.



Special Worship Service: Soul Lift

On the 4th Sunday of each month we meet in the Memorial Outdoor Sanctuary at 3pm to sing the old, familiar hymns, hear words of comfort from the Bible, and share Holy Communion. Please join us for this special worship service on Sunday, May 26, which aims to lift the soul.

SUNDAY SCHOOL continued from p. 1

So Christian education has long been a part of Methodism, both for young people but also adults. Our Church currently has four adult Sunday school classes. They are presented below and meet from 9:45 to 10:30 a.m. on Sundays.

Followers of the Word is a class open to both men and women of all ages, who want to study a book of the Bible or Biblical topics in depth. They meet in the Conference Room of the Multi-Ministries Building. Currently Sergio Longoria is leading the class in an in-depth study of the Gospel of Matthew. In his business life Sergio is an electrical engineer, but he has completed a graduate degree at Austin Theological Seminary, and recently completed a study of Matthew there. Class leadership rotates and Todd Greer and Steve Howard have also led studies of different books of the Bible.

Seekers and Thinkers is a class open to both men and women of all ages, who are interested in a more cerebral approach to faith. Typically, they watch a video presentation, currently one from *Foundations of Western Civilization*, and then a free-ranging discussion ensues concerning the ideas presented in the video. Dave Sidney leads the study that meets in the recently relocated sanctuary library and youth room.

The Discussion Group is a class for people of all ages of all ages, who read and discuss a popular book or current topics about larger issues in society and the church. They meet in the last classroom on the right (Classroom 5) in the Multi-Ministries Building. Currently they are discussing issues addressed in the United Methodist

Church's (UMC) recent Special General Conference. Karen Packard and Sue Sidney lead this class.

Christian Parents is a class devoted to the issues and concerns of raising children and teens in trying times like these. They are currently studying *Hollow Faith: How Andy Griffith, Facebook, and the American Dream Diluted the Gospel*. Contact Stephanie Talley to find out more about this class.

So why participate in an Adult Sunday School class? UMC.org has an article that describes what happens in adult Christian education and it is consistent with my own experience. I had a shallow understanding of Christian beliefs and the Bible until I engaged in regular Sunday school attendance and in-depth study. Through study you can gain a greater understanding of God's purposes and as a result your relationship with God grows deeper.

You also experience a closer relationship with your Christian community. Wesley believed that your relationship with God also needs fellowship with other Christians. Sunday school is a place where relationships deepen as you support and strengthen other Christians, as well as receive their support.

This knowledge and fellowship, along with the other means of grace, help you learn how to live a Christian life, how to follow Christ and how to reveal God's love in your actions wherever you are.

Christian education is a lifelong process of "learning, believing, growing and serving." If you don't attend an adult Sunday school class now, consider visiting one and find out how study and fellowship can help you grow as a Christian.

CPFUMC May 2019

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

Cedar Park First United Methodist Church, CARE Calendar, Child's Haven Events, Choir, **May 2019 (Central Time - Chicago)**
 CP1UMC Youth, Other Groups, Pumpkin Patch, SCOUTS, United Methodist Men, United Methodist Women

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
28	29	30	1	2	3	4
8:30am - Worship 9:45am - Sunday 10:45am - Worship 3pm - Soul Lift 6pm - Youth @	9:30am - Tai Chi 12:30pm - Talley 7:30pm - Centering	9:30am - Morning 10am - Bible Study 3:50pm - Talley 7:30pm - AA Men's	12:30pm - Talley 1pm - Easy Line 6:30pm - BS Pack 6:30pm - Buckles	2pm - Talley Plano 6:30pm - Women's	6:30pm - Alcoholics	5pm - Spring
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
8:30am - Worship 9:45am - Sunday 10:45am - Worship 6pm - Youth @	9:30am - Tai Chi 12:30pm - Talley 6:30pm - TRUSTEES 7:30pm - Centering	9:30am - Morning 10am - Bible Study 3:50pm - Talley 4pm - GS Troop 6:30pm - Wolves @ 7:30pm - AA Men's	12pm - Book Club 12:30pm - Talley 1pm - Easy Line 5:30pm - GS #40530 6:30pm - BS Pack 6:30pm - Buckles	2pm - Talley Plano	6:30pm - Alcoholics	9am - UMW Meets
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
8:30am - Worship 9:45am - Sunday 10:45am - Worship 6pm - Youth @	9:30am - Tai Chi 12:30pm - Talley 6:30pm - FINANCE 7:30pm - Centering	9:30am - Morning 10am - Bible Study 3:50pm - Talley 7pm - Boy Scout 7:30pm - AA Men's	12:30pm - Talley 1pm - Easy Line 6:30pm - BS Pack 6:30pm - Buckles	ACH Last Day of 11:30am - ACH 2pm - Talley Plano 6pm - UMW Soup.	NEWSLETTER Input 6:30pm - Alcoholics	
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
8:30am - Worship 9:45am - Sunday 10:45am - Worship 12pm - VBS training 3:30pm - Elise 3:30pm - Worship @ 6pm - Youth @	9:30am - Tai Chi 12:30pm - Talley 6:30pm - COUNCIL 7:30pm - Centering	9:30am - Morning 10am - Bible Study 3:50pm - Talley 6:30pm - Wolves @ 7:30pm - AA Men's	9:30am - Mbrship 12:30pm - Talley 1pm - Easy Line 5:30pm - GS #40530 6:30pm - BS Pack 6:30pm - Buckles	2pm - Talley Plano	6:30pm - Alcoholics	10am - Gretchen
26	27	28	29	30	31	1
8:30am - Worship 9:45am - Sunday 10:45am - Worship 3pm - Soul Lift 6pm - Youth @	9:30am - Tai Chi 12:30pm - Talley 7:30pm - Centering	9:30am - Morning 10am - Bible Study 3:50pm - Talley 7:30pm - AA Men's	12:30pm - Talley 1pm - Easy Line 6:30pm - BS Pack 6:30pm - Buckles	2pm - Talley Plano	6:30pm - Alcoholics	

EMPOWER

The children look forward to their time at the EMPOWER Mini Lockin. This is a time when they are given a few minutes on stage to perform something of their choice. The children are amazing.

First, we started off with with a few games before our dinner. A riddle scavenger hunt, “A place where you find hot dogs, burgers, and other delicious foods.” brought Rachel and Josie to a very tasty place.



Leland and James found just the place to, “Help keep our grounds clean.”

The children had twenty different riddles, which they solved very quickly.

During our stage time, James and Leland performed dances. Josie sang *Mamma Mia!* And, Rachel shared some valuable information regarding her lady bugs.

The children then decided to work together to perform *David and the Bully* based on a skit from kidssundayschool.com. The skit has a surprise ending. Please view the skit and see the children’s performances on YouTube, search CPFUMC.

We then ended our evening with a movie.



**YOU ARE
NEEDED**

**Looking forward to seeing you.
May 19th training meeting.
Immediately after second
service.
Safe Gatherings Refresher.**

