



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

Cedar Park First United Methodist Church

Connections

Newsletter



Prayer Shawl Ministry

Submitted by Karen Bowker

I'm excited to have the Prayer Shawl Ministry up and running at CPFUMC. We currently have six ladies making shawls and praying over them. We would love to have you join us no matter your age or skill set. Even if you just come to fellowship and pray with us, that would be wonderful. We meet Tuesday mornings at 11:00.

I'd like to give you some background on this ministry and share some experiences I've had. This ministry was started in 1997 by a group of

SHAWLS continued on p. 6

ALSO IN THIS ISSUE:

Jesus Rock Stars Corner	p. 2
iACT Red Bench	p. 3
Young at Heart Fellowship	p. 3
Church WiFi Upgrade	p. 4
ESL and GED Classes	p. 5
Church Finances	p. 7
August Calendar	p. 8

AUGUST 11 IS BLUEGRASS SUNDAY AND BLESSING OF BACKPACKS



The bluegrass band *Buffalo Grass* will be leading worship at both services on Sunday, August 11. It's also the Sunday before school starts, so all children can bring their backpacks for a blessing during worship. Please make plans to attend worship that day!

JESUS ROCK STAR CORNER

Submitted by Carolyn Smith

The Stars' discussion group this month is being a good friend. Through our *Pockets* booklet, we read several stories telling us how others were good friends. We discussed the friendships between Ruth and Naomi, David and Jonathan, and Mary and Martha. Through discussion of our own experiences, suggestions from others, we realized we are not alone in struggles with friends.

We discussed many ways we can make new friends by sharing things with others.



Tony and Rachel make origami butterflies to share with a friend.



Gwen, Tony, Anders, and Josie make deviled eggs to share with friends at the church's potluck.

Sometimes friends explore new activities only to discover they both like the same thing. A new activity we tried which none of the children were familiar with were card tricks. Several children took a deck of cards home so they could amaze their friends and family. Friendship is something we all strive to accomplish, it is not always easy, but it is always worth the effort.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Christmas play practice beginning in September.
Rehearsal is during Sunday School. Plan to attend.

Empower – Saturday, October 19th at 5:00 pm.
Will anyone show us new card tricks or new science project?



The Red Bench in Cedar Park / Hill Country!

The Red Bench Interfaith Conversation is an on-going dialogue program designed to address the most pressing needs of our time: improving interfaith understanding and civil discourse in our society.

Each conversation is centered on moderated small group discussions that are genuinely respectful and safe. No one has to be an expert - individual participants are invited to share from their personal experiences and listen with their hearts. The format is structured and allows each individual to be heard. Each table is "hosted" by one or two table hosts.

We will have four Red Bench Conversations in Cedar Park / Hill Country in 2019 hosted by different congregations.



We invite you to join us for the next *Red Bench Conversation* in Cedar Park / Hill Country:

Date: Thursday, August 15, 2019

Topic: Friendship

Location: Cedar Park United Methodist Church

600 W. Park St., Cedar Park, TX 78613

Please RSVP by calling 512-386-9145

Event Details:

Please note the location for each conversation and make sure to give yourself additional time to arrive. Details for parking and directions to the location may be found on our website. **These events are free and open to all. A light vegetarian meal will be served.** The program runs from **6:30 pm to 8:30 pm**. Bring a friend to share in the joys of an open and safe conversation with us!

For additional information please visit <http://interfaithtexas.org> or email iact@interfaithtexas.org or call 512-386-9145 and select menu option 5.

YOUNG AT HEART TO MEET AUGUST 28

Young at Heart is the church's monthly fellowship group. We'll be meeting again on Wednesday, August 28 at 11:30am in the Sanctuary. Please bring a salad or dessert to share. After lunch, Charlene Savoca will give us a dramatic portrayal of the poet Helen Steiner Rice. Please make plans to join us for a wonderful time of fellowship and learning.

Trustees Upgrade Wi-Fi

Submitted by Neil Howard

Last December when we got the new, more powerful wireless access point in the Sanctuary Building, we put the old (vintage 2010) router in the Nursery to extend our Wi-Fi signal outside the Sanctuary building. Well, that old router and its connection to our church network and the Internet finally died sometime in July.

Diagnosis

Since that old router was the main remote connection to our Wi-Fi-enabled irrigation system, we could no longer communicate with our Wi-Fi irrigation controller. The irrigation controller still operated just fine since its program is self-contained, but we could not easily and remotely change it or view any watering data. Part of the problem was not only the old router, but also the power line adapters used to extend our wired network from the Sanctuary to the Nursery using the building's 120v power wiring. Once the old router was replaced, the intermittent connection problem and inability to ping ultimately persisted, necessitating replacement of the power line adapters as well.

The New Setup

The new router is a TP-Link model AC1900 Archer C9. This is a dual band router (2.4GHz and 5GHz) set up as a Wireless

Access Point. We got this router because it is fairly modern (first released in 2017), much more powerful than our old Netgear N300 router, it has a form factor that allows it to be mounted in the Nursery window, it is white (which blends in somewhat with the surrounding paint, curtains and blinds) and it was reasonably priced on Amazon. The replacement power line adapters are TP-Link model AV1000 devices. These are a nice upgrade from the older ones because they work (!), they can "pair" to make an encrypted data channel and they seem to operate across electrical wiring circuits. This is good because the Nursery and the Conference Room where these are now installed are on different electrical wall power circuits. There is no longer a power line adapter



in the Sanctuary near the corner bookcase. It was moved to the Conference Room behind the couch.

All of the new equipment was donated.

The advantages of the new setup are

- A much stronger and more reliable Wi-Fi signal to connect our irrigation system to our network and the Internet.
- Much stronger Wi-Fi signals outside the Sanctuary building in the NE direction.
- 2.4GHz Wi-Fi signals at the road sign are now 220 MB/s. Previously this was 18 MB/s.
- 5GHz Wi-Fi signals at the road sign are now on the order of 380 MB/s.

This will come in handy when we ultimately upgrade our road sign. It may also help in The Pumpkin Patch, depending on where we put the pumpkins and point-of-sale equipment.

For your reference, the list of Wi-Fi networks available at the church is now

1. CPFUMC (2.4GHz, MMB)
2. CPFUMC-5G (5GHz, MMB)
3. CPFUMC-2 (2.4/5 GHz, Sanctuary building)
4. CPFUMC-2A (2.4GHz, Sanctuary building)
5. CPFUMC-2B5 (5 GHz, Sanctuary building)

All of these Wi-Fi networks at the church have the same Wi-Fi password: Genesis11.



ESL and GED CLASSES

Fall 2019 Semester



Community Action, Inc.
of Central Texas
— DEVELOPING OPPORTUNITIES —



Cedar Park First
United Methodist Church

First day of class:
Monday, September 9th, 2019

Classes meet:
Monday--2:30 pm-5:00 pm
Friday--10:00 am-1:00 pm

ALL CLASSES ARE FREE!

For more information, please contact:
Suzanne Johnson, Adult Ed Coordinator
sjohnson@communityaction.com
512-971-4380

ESL and GED REGISTRATION/ORIENTATION DATES:

Monday, August 19th--2:30 pm
Friday, August 23rd--10:00 am
Monday, August 26th--2:30 pm

Registration/Orientation will be a 3-hour session
You will need to bring a photo ID.

Cedar Park First United Methodist Church
600 W. Park St. Cedar Park, TX

SHAWLS continued from p. 1



women from Hartford Seminary. Since then, these gifts of love have been given in times of sorrow and loss, to those facing health issues or surgeries, or those facing other difficult times. Shawls are also given in times of celebration: births, weddings, birthdays, anniversaries, ordinations, and graduations.

This ministry is based in love and combines needlework and prayer into a tangible, unconditional symbol of care, concern, and celebration. I have heard many stories from recipients of prayer shawls describing what the shawls have meant to them. I'd like to share a few with you.

One woman was having twins and took her prayer shawl to the hospital with her. She said she always thought it was "nice" that we give shawls, but when she put hers around her, she felt the prayers and it gave her peace. She also said it gave her the opportunity to share her faith with others when they commented on her shawl.

A friend's brother had gotten very ill and went into a coma. She asked if we'd pray over a shawl for him. We did and she took it to the hospital and talked to him about it, put it over him, and at that time he briefly opened his eyes and talked to them before going back into the coma.

A lady in North Carolina who had received a prayer shawl, asked if we'd make a traveling prayer shawl for their church so they could pass it to different people in need. We did and she later requested another because they couldn't take it from the lady who had it and still needed it, but there was another need.

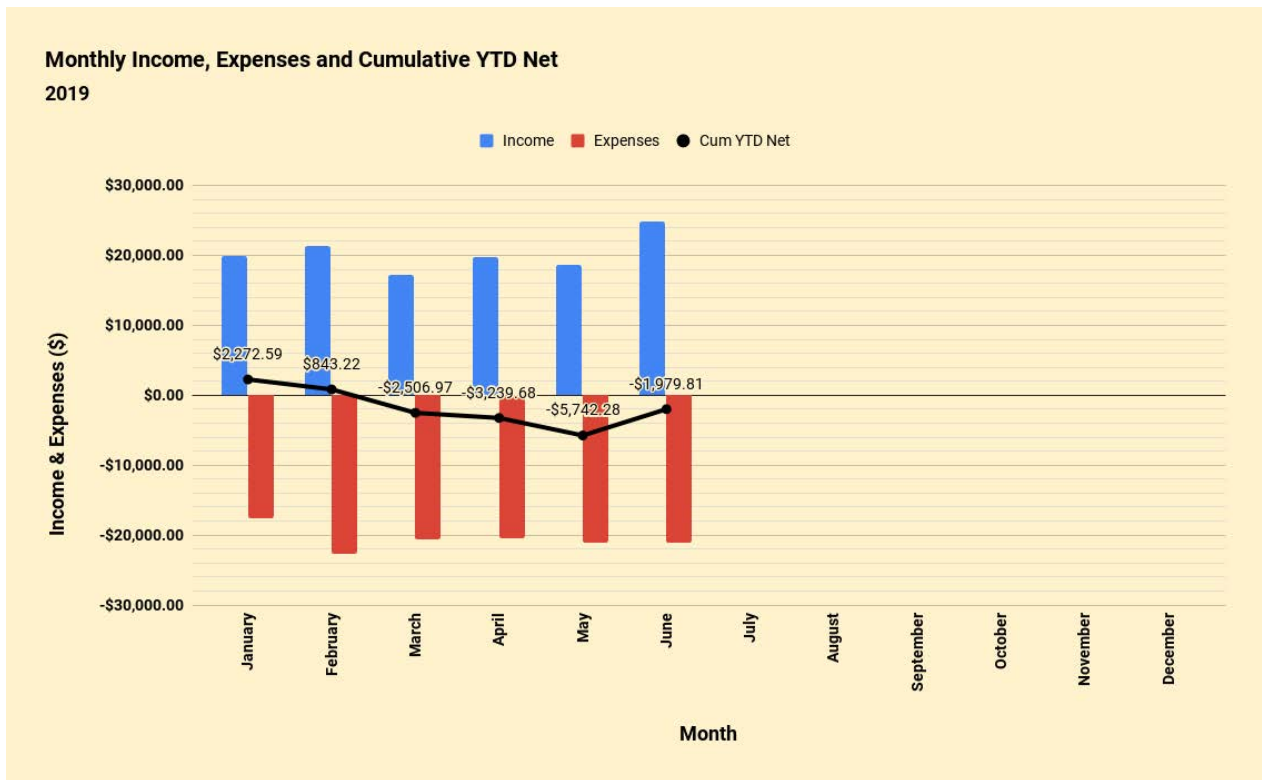
Many others were touched by the fact that people they didn't know were praying for them.

So many stories and they weren't the only ones blessed. The ladies making the shawls and praying over them are blessed by their stories, pictures that are sent, etc. No matter how many shawls we make and pray over, we are blessed more and more by their stories, and reactions. After all, we can't out-give God.

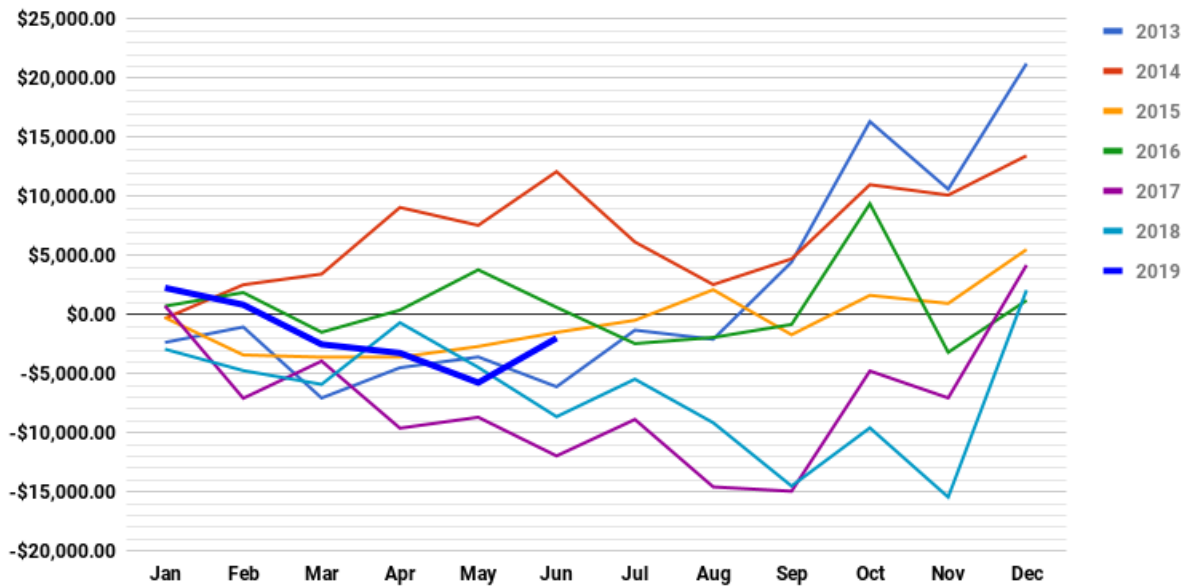
Please join us. If you'd like more information, you can contact me or talk to one of the ladies in the group. If you'd like to come and just pray with us or donate yarn, that's fine too. If you'd like to request a shawl for someone, look for forms on the table in the back of the church that you can fill out and put in the offering plate. We just ask that you be responsible for delivering them after they are made and blessed.

Contact Karen at kbowker1949@gmail.com 512 785-3046 (Cell) 512 401-0787 (Home)

Cedar Park First United Methodist Church Financial Snapshot



Cumulative Total YTD Net (2013-2019)



CPFUMC Calendar August 2019

Cedar Park First United Methodist Church, CARE Calendar, Child's Haven Events, Choir, Aug 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 8:30am - Worship 9:45am - Sunday 10:45am - Worship 12pm - Youth @ 3pm - Soul Lift	29 9:30am - Tai Chi - 11am - Tai Chi 1pm - Who Is My 7:30pm - Centering	30 9:30am - Morning 10am - Bible Study 11am - Prayer Shawl 2:45pm - Talley 7:30pm - AA Men's	31 1pm - Easy Line 2pm - Talley Piano 6:30pm - BS Pack 6:30pm - Buckles	1	2 6:30pm - Alcoholics	3 12pm - AA Business
4 8:30am - Worship 9:45am - Sunday 10:45am - Worship 12pm - No Youth	5 9:30am - Tai Chi - 11am - Tai Chi 1pm - Who Is My 7:30pm - Centering	6 9:30am - Morning 10am - Bible Study 11am - Prayer Shawl 6:30pm - Wolves @ 7:30pm - AA Men's	7 1pm - Easy Line 6:30pm - BS Pack 6:30pm - Buckles	8	9 6:30pm - Alcoholics	10 9am - UMW Meets
11 8am - Buffalo Grass 8:30am - Worship 9:45am - Sunday 10:45am - Worship 12pm - No Youth	12 9:30am - Tai Chi - 11am - Tai Chi 1pm - Who Is My 6:30pm - FINANCE 7:30pm - Centering	13 9:30am - Morning 10am - Bible Study 10am - First Aid/CPR 11am - Prayer Shawl 7:30pm - AA Men's	14 1pm - Easy Line 6:30pm - BS Pack 6:30pm - Buckles	15 6:30pm - Red Bench 6:30pm - Youth RED	16 NEWSLETTER Input 6pm - Youth Retreat @ TBA 5:15pm - Meet the 6:30pm - Alcoholics	17
18 8:30am - Worship 9:45am - Sunday 10:45am - Worship 12pm - Youth @ 1:30pm - SPRC 3:30pm - Worship @	19 9am - ACH First Day 9:30am - Tai Chi - 11am - Tai Chi 2:15pm - ESL - GED - 6:30pm - COUNCIL 7:30pm - Centering	20 9:30am - Morning 10am - Bible Study 11am - Prayer Shawl 6:30pm - GS 6:30pm - Wolves @ 7:30pm - AA Men's	21 9:30am - Mbrship 1pm - Easy Line 6pm - Stewardship 6:30pm - BS Pack 6:30pm - Buckles	22	23 8:30am - ESL - GED - 6:30pm - Alcoholics	24
25 8:30am - Worship 9:45am - Sunday 10:45am - Worship 12pm - Youth @ 3pm - Soul Lift	26 9:30am - Tai Chi - 11am - Tai Chi 2:15pm - ESL - GED - 7:30pm - Centering	27 9:30am - Morning 10am - Bible Study 11am - Prayer Shawl 7:30pm - AA Men's	28 1pm - Easy Line 6:30pm - BS Pack 6:30pm - Buckles	29	30 8:30am - ESL - GED - 6:30pm - Alcoholics	31