

HAPPENINGS this week at CPFUMC

12/04/2019

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

Sunday Worship times 8:30a & 10:45a

If you prefer NOT to receive these Happenings each Wednesday, please reply and let us know that.

Alert: One Worship Service at 10am on December 29th

Darkness

There is a light in us that only darkness itself can illuminate. It is the glowing calm that comes over us when we finally surrender to the ultimate truth of creation: that there is a God and we are not it. . . .

Life Goes On

Then the clarity of it all is startling. Life is not about us; we are about the project of finding Life. At that moment, spiritual vision illuminates all the rest of life. And it is that light that shines in darkness.

*Sister Joan
Chittister*

Only the experience of our own darkness gives us the light we need to be of help to others whose journey into the dark spots of life is only just beginning. It's then that our own taste of darkness qualifies us to be an illuminating part of the human expedition. Without that, we are only words, only false witnesses to the truth of what it means to be pressed to the ground and rise again.

PRAYERS *for Help and Healing* :

Recent Requests for Prayers:

Nace "Papa" Baggerman, Gigi's father, skin cancer removal & reconstructive surgery on 11/26
Carmelo perez & Ida Ramirez in Puerto Rico, by Edna Soto
Grace Perez, Rio TX UMW President, in hospital recuperating from a stroke ..
Shawn Dubler & Wilson Family, on the loss of their "friend/brother", Frank Wilson
Glenda & Charlie Goss, having lots of challenges getting around
Adalid & Mary Linda Verastegui, have moved to The Enclave, 3405 El Saliido Parkway, Cedar Park, 78613.
Marilyn Hartman, in rehab at Sagebrook expecting to move to The Pointe before Christmas
Hyacinth Fenty, "new knee" surgery now home doing therapy & following instructions doing well
JoAnn Doak, recovering after "new knee" surgery last Thursday
Grover Williams, heart "watchman" procedure postponed
Linda Howard, Steve's wife, is being cared for at home & undergoing radiation.
Anderson Price & family, his continuing battle with autoimmune encephalitis; hopeful with new plan of care
Shelley Blanda, RN, helping addicted newborns become well; Hartmans granddaughter
Richard & Jodi Blount & their mothers, traveling to London to visit Audrey .
Cynthia Ojeda, Chiid's Haven teacher, father-in-law died ..
Ana Ortega, going through a struggle
David Bustillo, Soto's friend, double pneumonia
Erica Soto, Edna & Jorge daughter-in-law
Erin Koepper, Glenda Morrison's granddaughter, needs bone marrow transplant.

PRAYERS *of THANKS!!* :

THANKS Joy, Food, Charades during Intergenerational Bible Study !!!

THANKS To Deliver Food to Steve & Linda Howard: Please contact Karen Packard : 928.246.2412

Please RE-MEMBER with prayers and cards

Mona Cannell
1606 Carriage Hills Trl
Cedar Park, 78613

Marilyn Hartman
The Pointe
450 Discovery Blvd
Cedar Park, TX 78613

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

Diann Russell
1503 N Woodstone
Cedar Park, 78613

Lillian Smith
The Pointe
450 Discovery Blvd
Cedar Park, TX 78613

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

Myrl McKellar
The Pointe
450 Discovery Blvd
Cedar Park, TX 78613

Adalid & MaryLinda Verastegui
The Enclave
3405 El Saliido Pky, Cedar
Park, 78613

College Students

At Tarleton State

At North Texas

At Angelo State

Aaron How
2242 Flat Creek Dr.
Richardson , Tx 75080

Gretchen Scott
1333 W Washington
T-5444
Stephenville, TX 76402

Elizabeth Talley
1155 Union Circle
#308640
Denton TX 76203

Will Talley
1818 S Lincoln St Apt 54E
San Angelo Tx 76901

At: Brigham Young
Ethan and India How
158 W 700 N
Spanish Fork, UT 84660

In England for semester
Audrey Blount
ablount1@samford.edu

Audrey Blount
12 Ashburn Gardens
London SW7 4DG
England

HAPPENINGS THIS WEEK!!

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

WEDNESDAY, December 4th

1:00p Easy Line Dancing Class

THURSDAY, December 5th

FRIDAY, December 6th Happy Birthday, Pastor Suzette

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

10:00a Weekly Women's Coffee

SATURDAY, December 7th

10a-2p Christmas VBS

5:p- 8:p YOUTH Christmas Night Experience

SUNDAY, December 8th Advent 2nd Sunday

8:30a WORSHIP, Come, Celebrate, Communion

9:45a Sunday School for all ages

10:45a WORSHIP, Come, Celebrate,

Noon ~~Advent Study: Adults & Youth~~

Noon YES YOUTH

Noon Choir PRACTICE

MONDAY, December 9th Monday Moanings for youth

2:30p ESL / GED

7:30-9p Centering Prayer

TUESDAY, December 10th

9:30a Gather - Caroling

9:30a **NO** Morning Worship

10:00a **NO** Bible Study

11:00a **NO** Prayer Shawl Ministry

WEDNESDAY, December 11th

1:00p Easy Line Dancing Class

LOOKING FORWARD !!

Sat Dec. 14th Happy Birthday Pastor Peter
Sat Dec. 14th 10am Women's Advent Brunch
"Christmas Heart"
Sun Dec 15th noon Lunch & Advent study
Sun Dec 15th 3:30 Worship @ The Pointe
Youth Caroling ...
Wed Dec 18th 9:30 Gather to go Caroling

Thurs Dec 19th 11:30a Child's Haven Christmas Program
Fri Dec 20th NEWSLETTER
Sun Dec 22nd noon Lunch & Advent study
Tues Dec 24th 5pm Family Worship
Tues Dec 24th 7pm Candlelight Worship
Sun Dec. 29th 10:00a Single Worship Service

Please Check the complete calendar at <https://cpfumc.org/>

AUCTION ON-LINE

WE ARE LIVE

HOLY LAND TRIP !

Here's your auction link for the online auction to support the youth trip to the Holy Land :

<https://www.32auctions.com/Holylandtrip2021>

SAT. DEC 7TH

ADVENT VBS

10A-2P

Saturday

December 7th

10:00 am - 2:00 pm
in the sanctuary

**Jesus Is The
Best Gift
Ever VBS!**

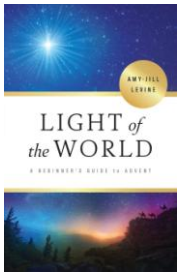
Children come and help us travel through time to discover the best gift of all. Our VBS is open to all elementary age children, bring a friend. Register online at www.cpfumc.org .

See you there Carolyn Smith and Amanda Theriot

DEC 8TH

INTERGENERATIONAL ADVENT BIBLE STUDY

NOON



INTERGENERATIONAL BIBLE STUDY PLANNED FOR ADVENT

The biblical texts surrounding the story of the birth of Jesus will be the subject of a new study planned for the four Sundays in the season of Advent. Both youth and adults are invited to take part.

The classes will be held immediately following the 10:45 worship service, from noon until 2pm, on December 8, 15, and 22. A light lunch will be provided.

Please consider taking part in this study, which will trace the Christmas narrative through the stories of Zechariah and Elizabeth, Mary, the journey to Bethlehem, and the visit from the Magi, utilizing the recent book by Amy-Jill Levine entitled *Light of the World: A Beginner's Guide to Advent*.

SAT. DEC 14TH

CHRISTMAS HEARTS

ADVENT BRUNCH



"YOU are Invited" to share brunch & fellowship

Women's Advent Brunch : Christmas Hearts

Saturday, December 14, 2019 10am-Noon

We will be hearing updates & collecting donations for **The Refuge**

NEW ITEMS: Pajamas (*pants and long-sleeved shirts*), socks (*long and short*), hats, gloves, sweatshirts - *for girls ages 12-19 - all sizes XS-XXXL*,

and for **acts Of Love**

Lysol wipes, "Kleenex" Tissues, baby wipes, Diapers (sizes 1-2), for the babies cared for by Monetary Donations are always welcomed ...

NOVEMBER / DECEMBER

CHOIR

Please plan to come at 10:30 am on Sunday December the 8th to sing "Advent Celebration" and then plan on a longer practice afterwards to prepare for the 15th (so please bring yourself some food!!) Amber is also singing a hymn this day. I have to be out though by 1:20 due to a commitment at my school. Thank YOU to all that participated with the choir at The Pointe ...

PRACTICE - after second service unless noted otherwise:

Dec. 8th - **PRACTICE & SING** during service
Dec. 15th - **SING** at **both** services

Dec. 22nd - **SING** at second service
Dec. 29th - **NO PRACTICE**
Jan. 5th - **SING** at second service

Nov 10TH

YOUTH

FALL SCHEDULE!

Sunday, Dec. 8, 15, 22nd Lunch & Advent Bible Study

Saturday, December 7-5:00 – 8:00pm YOUTH Christmas Night Experience

Description: We will meet at church then head out for dinner before going to the Christmas Experience here in Cedar Park. Contact Suzette -512-694-2175

Sunday, Dec. 15 Lunch & Advent Bible Study;
3:30 Carols at The Pointe

Sunday, Dec. 22nd Lunch & Advent Bible Study

Sunday, Dec 29th - NO YOUTH Christmas Break

SPRING BREAK 2020

HOLY LAND TRIP

UPDATE

Thank you parents for all you were able to come out to our parent mtg. I will write up our tentative fundraising plans once I return to Austin. For now, I wanted to give you the tentative travel plans. We should be getting closer to a final travel cost. I request moderate hotels rather than high end to conserve cost. I am waiting to hear about number per room and travel insurance as well.

*These are the proposed **dates** of the Leander ISD Spring Break 2021. Day 1 (Sat, March 13) - Depart USA- Day 10 (Mon, March 22) - Return to USA*

*The trip is open to **all church members** and their guests. Once things are finalized we will have church-wide info meetings.*

AUCTION ON-LINE

WE ARE LIVE !!!

READY !

Here's your auction link for inviting participants: <https://www.32auctions.com/Holylandtrip2021>

There are many ways this can be done, including:

Emailing out the direct auction link for your online auction

Posting the auction link on websites

Posting the auction link on social networking sites like Facebook, Twitter, and LinkedIn

The more participants you have in your auction, the more successful it will be. We recommend inviting as many participants as possible to maximize your fundraising potential. Peace, Suzette

NOW !!

DINNER TABLES FOR ALL

SIGN UP TODAY!!

Let's Get To Know Each Other?



Did you sign up for Tables for All?

If you have participated or will be participating soon, we would love to hear from you. Please send your review to Carolyn, carolynsmith2215@gmail.com.

UpComing: MARK YOUR CALENDARS!!

DEC.

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN (UMW)

ADVENT BRUNCH

Please Plan to attend the Women's Advent Brunch on Saturday, December 14th, 10am.

- **NEXT MEETING:** Saturday, December 14th .. Women's Advent Brunch ... look for information about Acts of Love Daycare and The Refuge ... our Advent Mission emphases

BOOKS NEEDED

PROJECT TRANSFORMATION

LEANDER UMC & FUMC GEORGETOWN

Project Transformation will be coming to our area to help with reading skills . The Leander UMC will host an 8 week summer day camp on their campus for elementary students in the area. They need to create a library with approximately 100 books for elementary aged readers. If you would like to support this program, you may donate books for the library or donate funds to purchase books.

To access our wish list online: www.leanderumc.org/project-transformation

Project Transformation is still searching for a facility that can house 15 interns that would be relatively close to the two site churches: Leander & Georgetown. If you have any ideas please contact Mitchell Lambert:

Mitchell@riotexas.org or 255.610.3773

Just a Sample of the Hundreds of Books on the list at: <https://www.leanderumc.org/>

COMING SOON.....

BIBLE STUDY ON THE BOOK OF REVELATION

9:45-10:30AM

Look for the Starting date for a Bible study led by Pastor Peter during the Sunday School hour in the MMB Conference Room. The guidebook is "**Breaking the Code**" by Bruce M Metzger

The book of Revelation conjures up many images: passages of great beauty, passages of comfort, as well as passages that strike the casual reader as bizarre, bewildering, and sometimes frightening.

How are we readers today to discern God's message in this peculiar part of the Bible? Come to this Sunday School Discussion to unravel this message Coming Soon Watch for the date

MONDAYS & FRIDAYS

ESL & GED CLASSES

COMMUNITY ACTION OF CENTRAL TEXAS

December 2019

INFORMATION ON CHURCH VITALITY!

"YEAR-AROUND"

STEWARDSHIP IDEAS COMMITTEE

Count Me In!



A small group of people have belonged to a new committee at Church this year, the Stewardship Ideas Committee. Our tenure is over, and we wanted to share the outcome of all our brainstorming sessions. We were charged with coming up with a fresh approach to the annual pledge campaign and also with creating a narrative budget.

Instead of having the usual two-week campaign in November to ask just for monetary pledges from the Congregation as usual, we pondered an expanded pledge drive to address the needs of our church throughout the year, Year-Around Stewardship.

Month to Date Finances		This Week's Attendance
		<u>December 1st</u>
Anticipated expenses	\$ 21,865.	<u>8:30am</u> 25(Visitors 1
Contributions (3/4) <i>Sundays</i>	\$ 4,870.	
Still Needed:	\$ 16,995.	<u>10:45am</u> 81(Visitors:4)
Additional Giving		
\$2 For 20	\$ 32.	
True Vineyards (Rwandan Widow)	\$ 16.	<u>Sunday School</u>
Communion (Acts of Love)	\$ 150.	Children: 16
Communion (Refuge)	\$ 142.	Adults: 34
		<u>Youth Group</u> 2
		<u>Advent Study:</u> 14



How to Put Holy Back into Christmas

I just come home from shopping and all I heard through the stores are Christmas carols. On the TV you are hit in the face to buy all kinds of things for Christmas. This on the day that is after Halloween and three weeks before Thanksgiving. All I could think that the Christmas season has become too commercial. This is a season that Christians should hold dear to their hearts. This is when God sent His Son to the world as a baby and had Him live His life as a person.

How do we celebrate this date in time? How do we give to our children the importance of this date and of our belief. I asked several people about what they would do to put Holy back into Christmas. These are some of their suggestions.

If there are small children in your family these are a few suggestions.

On the first day of Advent make a loop out of construction paper. Have the children decorate it. Do this on each day and make a chain. You can put it on a tree or decorate their room. Some people put this chain out each year as decoration.

Get a **small nativity** set to have in their room. It could be made with cloth or resin. Put the Kings in the east part of the room and make the children move them closer and closer. Put the baby in the manger on Christmas Eve. Make it a "hands on" happening

Have the children of all ages put on a play of the nativity. It was a wonderful time in my house. Have the children do a small devotional during Advent.

ON-GOING HAPPENINGS !!

CALL TO ACTION

THINK: HCCM

www.hccm.org

Food Contributions for the this past week was **54(WOW!!)** (last week **65**) pounds- Thank you so much to all who participated!! Bob

We donated \$935 for 63 HCCM Turkeys !!

We **REALLY** appreciate your help!!! And I tell people ALL of the time.... We **ONLY** get to do the things we do because of people like YOU!!!! Thank you!!! Please do not hesitate to reach out to me with any questions. Bob Bowker

RUSS LUNDSTROM INVITED YOU: FUNDRAISER FOR 2020 ASCENSION SETON AUSTIN MARATHON + HALF

I'm running with **Team World Vision** to help provide life-changing clean water to children and communities in the developing world. Nearly 1,000 children under age 5 die every day from diarrhea caused by contaminated water, poor sanitation, and improper hygiene. But we believe the global water and sanitation crisis can be solved within our lifetimes. \$50 = clean water for 1 person Will you invest in the future and provide clean water for 1, 2, 3, or even more people? _ World Vision provides more clean water than any

nongovernment organization in the world, providing clean water to one new person every 10 seconds. They work to help communities lift themselves out of poverty for good by addressing issues around clean water, hunger, health, education, economic empowerment, and child protection. About World Vision <https://www.teamworldvision.org/participant/210635>

CALL TO ACTION

BACKPACKS FOR WHITESTONE ELEMENTARY

THANK YOU!!!

EACH WEEK: We will prepare 6 backpacks per week

The shelves are “low” on lunch items,

Needed: Lunches like: Mac n Cheese, Ravioli, Cup a Soup; Milk, fruit, veggies,

REMEMBER Weekly: 12 Breakfasts 12 Lunches 12 Dinners 24 Snacks

TIDBITS

UMC

NEWS AND FEATURES

UMNEWS.ORG

ALASKA

1,000 SOCKS FOR SOCKTOBER

Seward Journal

Socks for Seward

SEWARD, Alaska — Two United Methodist churches and their pastor, the Rev. Jim Doepken, had a leading role in an ecumenical effort to provide socks for the needy in and around Seward. The Socktober campaign netted more than 500 pairs.

[Read story](#)

A group of religious organizations and healthcare providers on the eastern Kenai Peninsula have collected over 500 pairs of socks to be distributed to those in need. The socks came from a number of churches – Seward and Moose Pass United Methodist Church, the Catholic Churches of Seward and Cooper Landing, and Resurrection Lutheran Church – as well as Providence Seward Medical Center and the Seward Community Health Center, said Jim Doepken, pastor at the Methodist churches.

The collection took place as part of Socktober, a national donation drive. The socks have been sent to the Seward Community Library, Qutekcaq Native Tribe and the Closet for further distribution.

PICKFORD, Mich

GOD TOLD PICKFORD

‘JUST DO IT!’

Homework club draws youth to aging church. — The Rev. Tim Bashore has created Homework Club, using teachers who are members of Pickford United Methodist Church. The new ministry is drawing about 30 young people on school days to a church that consists of predominantly older congregants. Kay DeMoss reports.

The people in almost every United Methodist congregation say, “We need kids!” Pickford UMC is growing because they love children and understand that kids need them.

If you google “asset-based approach” you will learn that it is “ministry development based on strengths found in the community.”

If you ask Pastor Tim Bashore about asset-based ministry, his enthusiastic answer is, “Pickford is blessed to have many retired teachers. When God gave me this idea and said, ‘Do it!’ I was able to use what we have here.” And then he adds, “EVERY congregation has a gift.” And Pastor Tim hopes that every congregation is also listening when God says to them, “Just do it!”

Tim and his wife were living in Lapeer when he was appointed to Pickford in 2014. Tim says, “Coming here was harder for my wife because of the grandchildren in the Thumb and in Indiana. But she said, ‘Hey, we have been called to go to Pickford, of course, we’ll go!’” Five years later, they have settled in nicely above the bridge, in this village just 45 miles north of the Straits of Mackinac.

Upon arrival, Tim was welcomed by a congregation of 75-80-year-olds. What many of them said to him was, “We need kids!” Tim remembers, “I would pray every week that we would have two kids come up for children’s moment.”

That’s when God gave Tim eyes to see. “I looked more closely at the community. The church is two blocks from a school. I looked more closely at the congregation. We have a lot of school teachers in this church. We can use them!” That’s how **Homework Club was born.**

He shared the vision with the congregation. “They wondered, ‘How many will we have?’ I said, ‘I didn’t know. Maybe 10?’ Their response was, ‘Do you really think we’ll get 10!’”

The next step was to approach the school. “I said, ‘Hey! We have a lot of retired teacher and we would like to start a tutoring program for kids,’” Bashore recalls. The school’s response? “Of course!” The program launched. Tim reports, “We got 30 the first week. Wow!”

Once at the church, the young people get a snack and do homework until 4:30. After that, they go to the sanctuary for the Christian part of the program, followed by supper back downstairs. Parents pick their children up at the church after dinner.

"In the beginning, about six would stay after the tutoring was over," Tim says. "Now, if we have 30 for Homework Club, 29 stay." It takes about 14 volunteers to make such an after-school ministry happen each week.

Tim notes that "We have great tutors. One man, who was a principal and superintendent, helps the older kids. His wife is an author and school teacher and she leads the reading program." Tim is thankful for this broad base of support among the members. As he describes it, "I began as head guy, principal, and teacher. Now a wonderful volunteer named Melanie Bolton has taken the reins and I am more like the superintendent." That's a blessing in the United Methodist system. "Before Homework Club would have just left with me," Tim says. "Now the program will go on when I receive a new appointment."

From the beginning, the goal was to help the children learn, Bashore explains. "Whatever else comes is extra. Gravy and great."

And some great things are happening for the community, for the church, and for the families.

"This is a shining light in Pickford," Bashore notes. The witness has been powerful. "Seeing us walk the kids we love from the school to the church has itself made a difference in the town," he continues. "The people in the Coop Store watch us go by and they understand what we are contributing. That's been good for the community." The pastor adds, "People have come to church because they have seen us walk the kids to Homework Club and think it's a great thing we're doing"

What about those older folks in the pews who greeted Pastor Tim in 2014 saying, "We need kids!" They are the people who make Homework Club happen. "They help with the young people now and it's exploded!" Bashore goes on, "Today Pickford is a very busy church with something going on every day and every night. All because we love the kids."

Pastor Tim's **passion for the program is contagious**. "Homework Club has been very energizing. We now have 20 people attend Ad Board when there was almost no one before." Something that's never been done before by a church can become something quite amazing. "We are under anointing by God," Tim says, "It's a wonderful thing because we are doing what God has led us to do."

In 2014 there were 75 in worship on Sunday and now there are 180. Pastor Tim's prayers have been answered. "We sometimes have 25-30 children up front for children's moment. Families are coming to church on Sundays because their kids come on Tuesdays." These newcomers were unchurched. "I would not want them to leave another pew to come to ours."

Bashore notes that not every family involved in Homework Club has become active in the congregation. "But all the students call me, 'Pastor Tim.' And those who come on Tuesday get church that night."

God is indeed in the asset business. As the pastor of Pickford United Methodist Church reminds us, "EVERY congregation can have something special going on." Pastor Tim Bashore believes a program like Homework Club can work for other churches. "If you are a small-town church, you are not that far from a school," he asserts. "All I can tell you is, give it a try. Even if only four kids meet you in front of the school, you will be helping four kids with their education. And you will be telling them what Jesus is doing in their lives."