

HAPPENINGS this week at CPFUMC

05/13/2020

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

ALL Sunday Worship & Other OnSite Activities have been canceled through May 2020

LIVE STREAMING SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICES

Sunday Morning Worship at 10am

ALL may be found posted on our Facebook page.

(<https://www.facebook.com/pg/CedarParkFUMC/posts/>) OR

Via the link on our website homepage

For the safety of everyone, we are suspending onsite services from now through April.

Please stay home and plan to join us each Sunday morning, live at 10:00 am on our Facebook page

Our campus is CLOSED for all onsite events until further notice.

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

Will you let me be your servant
Let me be as Christ to you
Pray that I might have the grace
To let you be my servant too

We are pilgrims on the journey
We are travellers on the road
We are here to help each other
Walk the mile and bear the load

I will weep when you are weeping
When you laugh, I'll laugh with you
I will share your joy and sorrow
Till we've seen this journey through

Recent Requests for Prayers: PRAYERS for Help and Healing :

For patience and understanding ...

Gratitude for all essential workers who are risking their lives for us.

Prayers for all who are battling COVID-19 and the families of those who have lost loved ones.

Joy that MaryLinda is back at the Enclave receiving therapy there & being with with Adalid

Martha Orr, Please pray for my friend Kathy who has just been diagnosed with brain cancer

Amanda Horn Theriot. Pray for my neighbor, Nancy, who is a health provider

Mary Ann Mosier, Please pray for Olivia and Jake as they lost their mother to cancer on April 30

Mart Goodman. We are leaving Wednesday for Georgia & Florida we will be on the oad for three weeks

Sterling Hartman. Enjoying the beautiful day God gave us alone with the work beautifying our home with

tree trimming and planting of 30 live plants and a gozillius seeds done by Middleton Tree Landscaping

Debra Longoria, Please pray for Sarah and AP testing. Rachel's knee is healed

Jennifer Ruffcorn. Elizabeth's 5th Birthday and Thank you for all the Mom's and all they do/have done for us.

Todd Greer. Angies birthdays tomorrow so blessings former in our lives.

Parthenia Hughes Keys. Prayers for easier breathing.

Elaine Stollfuss My daughters Robins birthday.

Kathy Hamman. Beautiful talk Peter. Flute is wonderful

Parthenia Keys Prayers for Cynthia Lawrence is having a hard time in new home

Karen Lyman Goodman. Prayers of graditude that Kirk was not hurt badly after his car accident Continue

Prayers for healing through.

Jennifer Ruffcorn Thanks to all the teachers and for all their patients in this difficult situation.

Edna Soto. Please pray for Puerto Rico they had another Earthquake yesterday.

Ruth Gray Piano player and Flute Player beautiful

Margaret McClintock Prayers for all graduates who will not be recognized at graduation

Gigi Heersman. Thanks to you Pastor Suzette for having you keeping the youth together during this challenging time.

Kathie Hamman. Prayers for a dear friend Rich Fudge recovering from open heart surgery.

Karen Goodman. Prayers for residents that are sequester in their rooms Gigi. Heersman. Prayers for all students who are struggling with anxiety and adjusting to new ways of learning.

Karen Lyman Goodman. Grateful for informative connections letter.

Andrea Engle Dr. Martha Haun, former Speech Professor at U of H - non-Hodgkin's lymphoma in Carrollton TX. THANK YOU!!!, Pastor Peter's sister, Andrea
 Diann Russell on the death of her brother, Bill Jordan in Houston

Please RE-MEMBER with prayers and cards and calls

Please remember to contact these folks and others

during these weeks with cards, calls, notes of some kind. Those in care facilities are NOT currently able to have visitors so are needing a little extra TLC.....

Mona Cannell 1606 Carriage Hills Trl Cedar Park, 78613	Marilyn Hartman The Pointe 450 Discovery Blvd Cedar Park, TX 78613	Cynthia Lawrence Highland Estates Rm 134 1500 Lakeline Blvd Cedar Park, TX 78613 737.843. 7011 (new!!)	Myrl McKellar The Pointe 450 Discovery Blvd Cedar Park, TX 78613 512.966.3063 myrlpointe@yahoo.com
Phyllis Myers 310 Chisholm Tr. #206. Round Rock, TX 78681	Diann Russell 1503 N Woodstone Cedar Park, 78613 512.496.8794 dhjr99@yahoo.com	Lillian Smith The Pointe 450 Discovery Blvd Cedar Park, TX 78613	E. Duke Squibb Gracy Woods 12042 Bittern Hollow Austin TX – 78758
Marsha Venable 2112 West Riviera Drive Cedar Park, TX 78613 512.257.9698	Adalid & MaryLinda Verastegui The Enclave #270 3405 El Saliido Pky, Cedar Park, 78613 512.909.4975 mlindav@gmail.com		Priscilla Gregory Cedar Pointe # 203 1301 Cottonwood Crk Trl Cedar Park 78613 956.493.4942 cissyella@gmail.com

Celebrations <https://cpfumc.org>

HOLY LAND TRIP 2021 UPDATE

Youth Seek Jobs to Raise Funds for Their Holy Land Trip



Recently, Abigail and Shawn Dubler replaced the church mailbox.

They got ready; Abigail reads instructions; Shawn brought the right tools; they anchored cladding to wooden post; they removed the box holding bolts; then bolted on the new safe box

– Great Work. Thanks for the Help!



Even in this time of minimal contact, if you have outdoor work for one or two youth at a time, please contact Suzette.

ALL interested in travel to the Holy Land in March 2021 are welcome to join the conversation. peace, Suzette suzette@cpfumc.org

HAPPENINGS THIS WEEK!!

NEEDS YOUR HELP PROJECT TRANSFORMATION Summer Isn't Cancelled

In order for us to stop summer slide that started in March, we have to acknowledge that even our families who started out OK are now struggling.

PT is hoping and praying that partner churches are going to commit to X number of "starter boxes" and then a bag a week for every child in the house for 8 weeks. **THIS IS A LOT.**

It comes out to around \$25/kiddo for the starter box and a little less than \$5/kiddo for each subsequent week.

YOU are needed to make this possible.... **HERE** is the need : **CALL/Text** Karen Packard 928.246.2412

1. Our plan/prayer is that churches like yours **commit to** X number of kiddos for the entire summer. That way it is not heavy lifting for any one church, family, person or organization.
2. We need volunteers to **make these bags** and then **deliver them to the site church** where our families will pick them up weekly along with food.
The **SUPPLY LISTS** can be found below.
3. We will also be asking for **pen pals for every child** once a week. You write a note and mail it along with a self addressed, stamped envelope for them to write back to you.
4. **Reading Buddies** are volunteers that a child reads with each day for 30 minutes. Reading buddies usually read with 3 different children in a morning. Reading buddy time is from 10am to 12noon. You will be trained at 9:30 your first morning to volunteer. Every adult Reading Buddy must have a cleared background check.

MORE INFORMATION: <https://projecttransformation.org/rio-texas/get-involved/volunteer>

Here is the link to our website, directly to the COVID page.

<https://projecttransformation.org/rio-texas/covid-19-response>

We allow youth to participate in certain volunteer opportunities, knowing they are not eligible for background checks. We select these opportunities carefully, knowing that they will be supervised. Generally, youth participating in Pen Pals are doing so through their youth group, or with the help of their parents.

When a someone signs up to volunteer as a reading buddy or a pen pal, the link and instructions for the background check are a part of that process. And if they sign up but we don't receive the background check, I follow up with them individually. If a youth signs up to be a pen pal, in the background check status question of the registration process, they will select "I am a minor".

Families can choose to participate in any or all of the 4 summer options.

We are working with school districts and families to find out what digital access they have over the summer, and our site churches are exploring creative partnerships to see if we can stand in the gap.

Children can come to the site church and pick up meals, supplies (with activity ideas), and books. They can also participate in self-guided online camp, and/or interactive Zoom reading buddies and circle time.

One of the many reasons we serve neighborhood families is to minimize the transportation challenges. Each summer, families are responsible for getting their children to and from site.

I work on the literacy components of our program, so please feel free to email me your ideas, or we can set up a time for a phone call.

Thank you for your thoughtful questions and continued partnership. Please let me know how I can help further.

I'm happy to set up a follow-up call with you or any of your church members should that be helpful.

Peace and blessings,

Kaci Boylan, Program Director

WED, MAY 13TH

WEBINAR MAPS OUT ROAD TO REOPENING

2PM

The Woodlands United Methodist Church is hosting a webinar, "**Road to Reopening The UMC**," on **Wednesday, May 13, at 2 p.m.** CDT. The hour-long panel discussion will cover a wide variety of topics churches must consider as they look to worship in person again.

Panelists include the Rev. Adam Hamilton, United Methodist Church of the Resurrection, Leawood, Kan.; the Rev. Olu Brown, Impact Church, Atlanta; the Rev. Tom Berlin, Floris United Methodist Church, Herndon, Virginia; and the Revs. Ed Robb and Susan Kent from The Woodlands.

"So many churches currently lack a sounding board for their questions," said Kent. "We are our best when we're able to talk to others who could give new perspective or new ideas."

Kent, The Woodlands' pastor of women's ministry and worship, said the idea came about when she shared information she'd gleaned from other webinars with Robb, the senior pastor, and he asked if such a gathering specific to the denomination had been held.

"We thought it would be good to have an open forum with people who have similar grounding in sacraments and other aspects of worship and ministry," she said.

Registrants to the event may submit questions to the panel in advance.

To register, visit thewoodlandsumc.org/reopen.

CALENDAR**THIS WEEK AT CPFUMC****NO FOOD NEEDED FOR BACKPACKSUNTIL LISD RESUMES****WEDNESDAY, May 13th**

- Noon Discussion of Pilgrim Journey (pp. 37-73) via Zoom (contact Pastor Peter to attend)
- 12:30pm Stories and Jokes with Pastor Suzette (FB Live)
- 2:00pm Webinar on ReOpening the church (see below for Registration)
- 8:00pm Youth Midweek Manna (30-minute check-in with Pastor Suzette via Zoom)

THURSDAY, May 14^h

- 10:00am Children's Chapel with Pastor Suzette via Facebook Live (go to Facebook.com/CedarParkFUMC or click the link on the CPFUMC.org homepage)
- 12:30pm Stories and Jokes with Pastor Suzette (Facebook Live)
- 4:00pm Tea Time with Pastor Suzette (5 minutes of prayerful reflection via FB Live)
- 7-8pm Holy Land Information zoom (Email Suzetter to receive invitation)

FRIDAY May 15th**SATURDAY May 16th****SUNDAY, May 17th**

- 9:00am Children's Sunday school class via Zoom
- 10:00am Livestream Worship Service on Facebook (go to Facebook.com/CedarParkFUMC or click the link on the CPFUMC.org homepage)
- 1:00pm Bible study on 1, 2 & 3 John led by Sergio Longoria via Zoom (contact Pastor Peter to attend)
- 4:00pm Youth Worship (contact Pastor Suzette for info)

MONDAY, May 18th

- 12:30pm Stories and Jokes with Pastor Suzette (midday break for anyone who loves books via Facebook Live on CPFUMC FB page)
- 4:00pm Tea Time with Pastor Suzette (5 minutes of prayerful reflection via FB Live)
- 6:30pm CHURCH COUNCIL Zoom meeting

TUESDAY, May 19th

- 9:30am Service of Morning Prayer led by Pastor Peter via Zoom (email Peter to attend)
- 10:00am Bible discussion group via Zoom
- 12:30pm Stories and Jokes with Pastor Suzette (FB Live)

Please check the calendar on our website..... as it is changing often

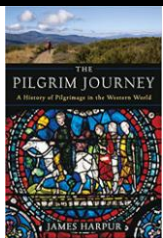
SUN. MAY 17TH**1PM SUNDAY STUDY****1 JOHN, 2 JOHN, 3 JOHN**

Sundays, Sergio Longoria is leading a study on 1st 2nd 3rd John at 1:00pm. The class will be gathering on Zoom.

Please email Pastor Peter peter@cpfumc.org or Sergio :longoria1@gmx.com so that you can be added to the list of those that are interested in participating

WED. MAY 13TH**METHODIST READING CLUB****THE PILGRIM JOURNEY****METHODIST READING CLUB ZOOMING TO DISCUSS THE PILGRIM JOURNEY**

If you'd like to participate, please email Pastor Peter Peter@cpfumc.org



The Pilgrim Journey: A History of Pilgrimage in the Western World by **James Harpur**

Pastor Peter will be leading a five-week Zoom study of James Harpur's The Pilgrim Journey on Wednesdays at noon. The book is a 2020 UMW Reading Program suggestion: www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/ReadingProgram

Schedule of readings:

May 13 – Chapters 13-16

May 20–Chpts 17-19 & Afterword.

A CHILDS HAVEN**ASSISTANCE NEEDED !!!**

In an attempt to open safely in the fall ACH is looking for additional funding to keep teachers on staff and to employ an interim Director as the current Director, Lesley has needed to take a job with LISD. Also, they are looking for folks with any experience in helping to plan for opening with distancing and knowing how to interpret the safe, healthy rules for opening.

If you can assist in any way, please contact Pastor Suzette.

Monday, June 1st, 2020 from 11:00am to 1:00pm (CT)

Summer camp fun isn't canceled! Serve with Project Transformation this summer by donating supplies that children will need to do camp virtually. Select the quantity of children you want to provide for then click the "Donate Summer Supply" button to finish the process.

Each child needs a **Starter Kit** at the beginning of the summer and a **Weekly Bag** for 8 weeks

Place the Starter Kit in a paper bag and the weekly items in a ziplock bag.

**Please make sure all items are brand new. Please do not pack candy; gift cards; toothpaste; gum; used or damaged items. Please do not wrap items or use tissue paper.*

SUPPLY LISTS**1 "starter kit": Due 6/1**

- Colored pencils (12 ct)
- Pencils (8 ct)
- Small pencil sharpener (1)
- Child scissors (1)
- Markers (10 ct)
- Crayons (16 ct)
- Glue sticks (2 sticks)
- Copy paper (50 sheets)
- Construction paper (100 sheets)
- Spiral Notebook (1 journal 70-100 sheets)
- Water color (1 8 ct pallet)
- Pipe cleaners (50)
- Sidewalk chalk (1 box 5 ct)
- Dice (2 dice)
- Bubbles (1 small bottle with wand)
- Jump Rope (1)
- Playing cards (1 deck)

Week 1 Due 6/1

(To be donated with the Starter Kit):

- Play-dough (2 cans)
- Pom-poms (50 Variety of colors)
- Straws (20 ct)

Week 5: Due 6/25

- Play-doh (3 mini)
- Crayons (16 ct)
- Glue sticks (2)
- Pencils (8 ct)

Week 2: Due 6/1

(To be donated with the Starter Kit)

- Water beads (50)
- Balloons (12)

Week 6: Due 7/2

- Brainteaser (1)
- Colored pencils (12 ct)
- Construction paper (50 variety of color)

Week 3: Due 6/11

- Puzzles (1 jigsaw puzzle) Age appropriate 6-13
- Googly eyes (75)

Week 7: Due 7/9

- Post it notes (2 packs)
- Pipe cleaners (50 variety of color)
- Sidewalk chalk (5 ct)

Week 4: Due 6/18

- Beads (100)
- String (1 large OR 5 small bundles)
- Feathers (50 multi colored)

Week 8 Due 7/16

- Reading pencils (3 per child)
- Silly Putty (1 egg)
- Yo-yo (1)

FROM THE UNITED METHODIST NEWS SERVICE**Methodists led response in earlier epidemic**

PHILADELPHIA (UM News) — When yellow fever sickened thousands and ground government to a halt in 1793, a U.S. founding father turned to two trailblazing African American Methodist leaders for help. Heather Hahn has the story.

[Read story](#)

Dakotas Conference, Dakota News Now**Drive-in church draws new worshippers**

WOONSOCKET, S.D. — The Spirit of Faith congregation here is growing attendance at services during the coronavirus pandemic by worshipping drive-in movie style. The church began the practice before the health emergency during the summer of 2018 and has met at a lumberyard, a lake during a fishing derby, a ballpark and a grocery store. Nowadays the congregation meets in the church parking lot.

[Read story](#)

[Watch Dakota News Now video](#)

CHURCHES HAVE MUCH TO CONSIDER BEFORE REOPENING

On May 10, 30 congregants and nine church staff met in the sanctuary at First United Methodist Church in Poplar Bluff, Missouri, for their first in-person worship since the coronavirus outbreak put a stop to such gatherings.

It was quite different from the 250 who typically worship at the church's three Sunday services. Everyone sat three pews apart and the normally large choir was reduced to a quartet, but the Rev. David Stewart, lead pastor, called it "an encouraging baby step."

"One person told me, 'I didn't know how much I missed worshipping together until I did it again,'" he said. The rise of the coronavirus pandemic and the social distancing measures that came with it forced churches to transition to online worship and ministry. Now, as many states lift shelter-in-place orders, churches must contemplate how — or whether — to return to in-person worship.

It's not as simple as just staying six feet away. Corporate worship contains physical contact, from passing the peace to passing the collection plate, from the coffee machine to communion. Finding alternatives to certain acts and adhering to thorough cleaning and disinfecting measures will be a challenge.

Many conferences are utilizing a blog post by Lifeway's Ken Braddy titled "[24 Questions Your Church Should Answer Before People Return.](#)" which covers cleaning and maintaining distance, but also considerations about volunteers, greeters, special occasions like funerals and weddings, and accurately taking attendance.

The Rev. Allen Cason, pastor of Metter United Methodist Church in Metter, Georgia, estimates it will be "five to 10 times as much work" for his church to hold in-person worship.

"We'd have to have multiple services and see if we have enough volunteers to do the necessary cleaning between each service. And whether we can acquire enough cleaning supplies at a reasonable price," he said.

"Ultimately, does it still resemble worship once we put all these restrictions in place?"

The Rev. Susan Kent, pastor of women's ministry and worship at The Woodlands United Methodist Church in The Woodlands, Texas, also expressed concern about over-regulating the community experience of church.

"If there's no coffee time, if we can't open our cafe, if there's no fellowship, then we've sterilized the gathering," she said.

With two campuses and more than 14,000 members, The Woodlands church would be hard-pressed to add enough additional services to accommodate limits on the number of people currently allowed at a gathering. Kent said the church doesn't favor that approach anyway, and has no timetable for opening.

"I've seen churches looking at multiple services with a reservation system, but making reservations feels like 'members only' and that's not what we're about," she said. "We don't want to rush opening the doors if it means we have to turn people away."

Cason said he's surveying church members asking what measures they're willing to take in order to have in-person worship, including wearing masks and having their temperature taken, or feeling comfortable leaving their children in the nursery.

Kelly Roberson, communications director for the South Georgia Conference, said in a May 5 conference webinar on reopening preparation that church leaders need to let everyone in the congregation know what's happening.

"Tell them what steps you've taken and what's expected of them as well. Explain what you are doing and why you're not doing other things right now," she said.

From the beginning of the pandemic, United Methodist bishops began issuing directives for churches in their episcopal areas to suspend in-person worship. Many extend past dates when their state governments are planning to relax quarantine measures.

In the Greater Northwest Episcopal Area, where many states are reopening or loosening restrictions, Bishop Elaine JW Stanovsky has asked churches not to gather in person through May 30. She cited John Wesley's principle to "do no harm" as her guidance.

"As Christians and citizens committed to protecting public health, we are responsible both to abide by the guidance of government and health officials, and to assess whether the church holds itself to a higher standard of caution than the states direct," she wrote in her [April 24 bishop's letter](#).

Illinois Great Rivers Conference Bishop Frank J. Beard noted that though some counties in the state have loosened restrictions to allow "[drive-in worship](#)," he is asking all United Methodists to observe the shelter-in-place set by Gov. J.B. Pritzker, which currently runs through May 29. The [governor's order is being](#)

[challenged in court](#), but according to the conference newsletter, the bishop's order will remain in effect even if restrictions are overturned.

On April 28, Bishops Robert T. Hoshibata, Desert Southwest Conference, and Minerva G. Carcaño, California-Nevada Conference, joined Nevada leaders of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America in [a letter](#) urging Nevada Gov. Steve Sisolak to extend the state's stay-at-home directive, which was set to expire April 30. Sisolak has extended the order through May 15.

In Eastern Pennsylvania, Bishop Peggy Johnson encouraged churches in her episcopal area to follow the guidance of their county health departments, as the state of Pennsylvania is operating on a phased reopening that began May 8.

Bethany United Methodist Church in Milton, Pennsylvania, is in a part of the state cleared for small gatherings, so it held its first in-person worship since March 15. Attendees had to maintain distance and wear gloves, and communion was offered in pre-packaged, individual, sealed cups.

"I hate to use the term 'new normal.' There is nothing normal about this," the church's pastor, the Rev. William McNeal [told The Daily Item newspaper](#).

Many bishops have an eye on May 24, Aldersgate Day, or May 31, Pentecost, as meaningful dates to resume in-person worship. However, others are looking to late June.

Once churches reopen, they will have to ponder what their post-coronavirus ministry will look like.

Many have found success in virtual worship, and even have [attracted "parishioners" from other parts of the country](#). They may be hesitant to cease a vibrant online ministry when in-person services resume.

"Even though it's not what everyone wants, what we're doing now is working," Cason said, adding that giving at his church increased in March.

Johnson urged her congregations to keep it up. In a recent e-newsletter to the Eastern Pennsylvania Conference, she wrote, "Please continue to offer your wonderful online presence to the world that is your parish. We can never go back to the days of in-person, onsite worship only."

Without additional support, scheduling both personal and virtual ministry could prove troubling to pastors who may have already been overworked and under-resourced before the pandemic.

West Ohio Conference Bishop Gregory Palmer said it may be necessary to prioritize and adapt ministry going forward.

In the conference e-newsletter, he wrote, "Make no mistake: We will be doing some old things in new ways, and we will not be doing some things at all."

During an Arkansas Conference webinar on relaunching worship, the Rev. Todd Lovell, associate pastor of First United Methodist Church in Springdale, Arkansas, said the current situation is a good time for church leaders to evaluate what's essential to their ministry.

"COVID-19 could allow churches to hit the reset button on our identity, to start ministries we've always wanted to and end others," he said. "This is a good opportunity to rid ourselves of 'legacy' programs that the church has always done but may no longer support the mission."

Lovell even uttered what could be considered blasphemy by many United Methodists: "We can still be a church if we don't have potlucks."

For now, Cason said he's envisioning a first step back as the "Acts 2 house church model" where small groups will gather in each other's homes to watch worship online and hold discussion afterward.

His bishop agrees. On a May 4 Zoom meeting about the South Georgia Conference's "rolling restart" plans, Bishop R. Lawson Bryan said, "Small groups will be the first step. This is what Methodists have been saying for 250 years: Christians grow best in small groups."

RESOURCES FOR CHURCHES

- Ken Braddy blog: ["24 Questions Your Church Should Answer Before People Return"](#)
- ["Best Practices for Church Cleaning and Management,"](#) by Larry Johnson, Oregon-Idaho Conference disaster preparedness and response coordinator
- The South Georgia Conference: ["Getting Ready to Return"](#)
- Minnesota Conference: [Guidance for returning to in-person worship](#)
- Candler School of Theology helped start the Facebook group [Ecumenical Protocols for Worship, Fellowship and Sacramental Practices](#), which is hosting webinars on its page every Tuesday at 10 a.m. CDT beginning May 12. The first webinar will deal with safely moving people in and out of the worship space as well as cleaning procedures.
- Check your own conference website for potential guidelines or resources specific to your area. [Click here for a directory of annual conferences.](#)