

# HAPPENINGS this week at CPFUMC

06/10/2020

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 June 2020**

## **LIVE STREAMING SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICES**

**Sunday Morning Worship at 10am**

**LINKS** for the Sunday Service AND the Sunday Bulletin are on our website homepage

**OR ALL** may be found posted on our Facebook page.

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

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



*For everything there is a season...*

*a time to be born, and a time to die;*

*a time to plant, and a time to harvest;*

*a time to weep, and a time to laugh...*

*a time to keep, and a time to throw away...*

*a time for war, and a time for peace.*

*Ecclesiastes 3*

## **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.

Anna Mullen who recently had surgery

Don Seward was severely injured in a boating accident on the lake. He suffered a broken back which necessitated surgery, and a long period of recovery is expected.

Glenda Goss gashed open her leg, which has not healed; she's also suffering from vertigo, all while trying to move to a house in Sun City near her daughter.

Priscilla Gregory, leaving rehab to move to Arlington on Friday with her sister, Terry.

Edna Soto, on the passing of her Godmother Antonia Velazquez Perea at the age of 88 in Puerto Rico.

Childcare facilities strategizing to open: A Child's Haven & Acts of Love

Sterling Hartman Prayers for all our family in Slidell La. and New Orleans with the storm in the Gulf.

Glenda Morrison. Penny lost her husband. Darlene lost her husband Tarren still deployed

Amanda Horn Theriot my cousin Grayson who has a birthday

Safe delivery for Crystal Carroll with COVID in her household

Corrie Van Rensburg My sister will be going for surgery on July 6

Lisa and Dean Feazell for 25 years of marriage

Pastor Peter and Pam married 39 years

Gigi Baggerman Heermans Safety of Doug Drake a good man and Police Officer

Sergio Longoria, Jenkins family, friends of ours Jim facing surgery

Glenda Morrison a friend Joe Howell back surgery on Tuesday

Karen Packard Thank you Peter for reminding us of the social principles of the UMC

Karen Lyman Goodman Prayers for John and Carolyn Pitcher. He built the Altar rail, Cross and Podium.

She has Alzheimer's and is a resident in a care facility.

Texas Wesley@UT: Some of the students have decided to meet (on Zoom) and discuss what they can do to help the African-American communities in Austin and their own hometowns. They are taking the initiative to empower each other to contribute some good in this hurting world of ours. Please pray for **Emily Mertink**, (former member of CPFUMC ) Anna Smith and Jacob Palmer as they lead this group and encourage healthy activism. Pray for our students to serve others with God in view.

Joy on the birth of a healthy son to Ben & Tandy Stephens, & grandson to Ron & Barbara King !!

Ruth Gray: Open heart surgery on Charley successful at Seton RR. Should be going home soon !!!

Par Keys: my cousin Gayle Green is having knee pain. And my sister-in-law, Sue, is in hospital again with severe copd.

Karen Bowker. Blessings for Nephew Jeffrey having to move to new facility today

Margaret McClintock. Lord bring Peace to us and let me be an instrument helping to bring that Peace

Martha Orr, Please pray for the violence in our nation to be calm and for wisdom and understanding to alleviate anger and bring justice to all

Sympathy for the family of Phyllis Myers on her passing June 1<sup>st</sup>

Gigi Heersman. Prayers for people who keep us safe during this ugly time in our lives

**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 <b>737.843. 7011 (new!!)</b>	Myrl McKellar The Pointe 450 Discovery Blvd Cedar Park, TX 78613 512.966.3063 myrlpointe@yahoo.com
Diann Russell 1503 N Woodstone Cedar Park, 78613 512.496.8794 <a href="mailto:dhjr99@yahoo.com">dhjr99@yahoo.com</a>	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 <a href="mailto:mlindav@gmail.com">mlindav@gmail.com</a>		

**Celebrations**

<https://cpfumc.org>

**SURVEY**

**UPDATE FROM YOUR CHURCH COUNCIL**

**RESULTS BELOW**

Church Members,

- For the safety of everyone, we are suspending onsite services from now through June. 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.
- The trustees' special task force has been working on **guidelines** to determine what is required for the church to re-open. After much discussion, we as the council felt we are not prepared to re-open at this time.
- In their next meeting on June 15, the Church Council will be taking these results into consideration to determine if and when and how the church will reopen for in-person worship. Thanks to all who responded to the survey. Your input is appreciated.

**WEBCAMS FOR LOAN**

Have you wanted to participate in one or more of the many online classes, but you just don't have the proper technology and you are afraid to try? The church has a webcam that you can get on loan and helpers available to get you connected. If you have a desktop computer with an Internet connection, you can use a webcam to participate in any of the many regular Zoom videoconference calls that are currently ongoing in our congregation for free. We have regular weekly online Lectionary Bible study with Pastor Peter, classes for Christian Parents and Sunday school classes for children, youth and adults. Contact Neil Howard if you are interested ([nhowardtx@gmail.com](mailto:nhowardtx@gmail.com)). Stay Connected!

**HAPPENINGS THIS WEEK!!**

**WEDNESDAY, June 10<sup>th</sup>**

12:30pm Stories and Jokes with Pastor Suzette (FB Live)  
8:00pm Youth Midweek Manna (30-minute check-in with Pastor Suzette via Zoom)

**THURSDAY, June 11<sup>th</sup>**

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)

**FRIDAY June 12<sup>th</sup>****SATURDAY June 13<sup>th</sup>****SUNDAY, June 14<sup>th</sup>**

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 Book of Daniel led by Todd Greer via Zoom (contact Pastor Peter to attend)  
4:00pm Youth Worship (contact Pastor Suzette for info)

**MONDAY, June 15<sup>th</sup>.....**

6:30p CHURCH COUNCIL

**TUESDAY, June 16<sup>th</sup>**

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)

**WEDNESDAY, June 17<sup>th</sup>**

Noon-1pm Book Club Reading "Tilly and the Crazy Eights" email Pastor Peter to receive the invite !!  
12:30pm Stories and Jokes with Pastor Suzette (FB Live)  
8:00pm Youth Midweek Manna (30-minute check-in with Pastor Suzette via Zoom)

**FRIDAY June 19<sup>th</sup> Newsletter articles due**

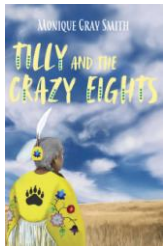
**Please check the calendar on our website..... as it is changing often**

**SUN. JUN 14<sup>TH</sup>****1PM SUNDAY STUDY****DANIEL**

Sundays, Todd Greer is leading a study on the book of Daniel. It at 1:00pm. gathering on Zoom.  
Please email Pastor Peter [peter@cpfumc.org](mailto:peter@cpfumc.org) so that you can be added to the list of those that are interested in participating

**WED. JUNE 17<sup>TH</sup>****METHODIST READING CLUB****TILLY & THE CRAZY EIGHTS****METHODIST READING CLUB ZOOMING TO DISCUSS "TILLY & THE CRAZY EIGHTS"**

If you'd like to participate in the Zoom discussions, please email Pastor Peter [peter@cpfumc.org](mailto:peter@cpfumc.org)



**TILLY AND THE CRAZY EIGHTS** Monique Gray Smith Second Story Press (2018)

Tilly impulsively agrees to drive eight elders on their ultimate bucket-list road trip. This adventure with "the Crazy Eights" will transform them all in ways they could not predict. The Crazy Eights each choose a stop on the way to their ultimate destination, the Gathering of Nations Pow Wow in Albuquerque. The trip proves to be powerful medicine as they laugh, heal, argue and dream along the way.

Pastor Peter will be leading a Zoom study on Wednesdays at noon starting June 17th

**YOUTH****UM ARMY****HOLY LAND TRIP 2021 UPDATE****July 12-16th: YOUTH UMArmy Home**

News at this site: <https://www.umarmy.org/news/2020/may/um-army-re-imagined-due-covid-19>

U.M. ARMY Re-imagined! The U.M. ARMY Staff and Board Members have been working for quite a while to ensure that you will still have a mission opportunity this summer. We believe God is still calling U.M. ARMY-and you, into the mission field this summer and beyond. It will look and feel different than previous U.M. ARMY experiences, but the need is different this year than in previous years.

So, we are still answering God's call "All In" together. (Romans 12:3-8)

U.M. ARMY is excited to announce the creation of U.M. ARMY Home and U.M. ARMY Local.

Due to the COVID -19 pandemic, and until National, State, and Local entities allow us to operate our traditional camp model, these will be our summer offerings for 2020.

### **Youth Seek Jobs to Raise Funds for Their Holy Land Trip**

Soon the Youth will be "painting" the Sidney deck with the second coat.... In the hot sun !!!!!  
Even in this time of minimal contact, if you have outdoor work for one or two youth at a time,  
peace, Suzette [suzette@cpfumc.org](mailto:suzette@cpfumc.org)

**GOOD JOB CHURCH**

**PROJECT TRANSFORMATION**

**THANK YOU !!!**

**YOU** are still needed to make this possible.... **HERE** are the ways you might help:

1. **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.
2. **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.

**SIGN UP for Pen Pals and Reading Buddies and Supply Bags here:**

<https://www.givepulse.com/group/238923-Project-Transformation-Rio-Texas>

**OR MORE INFORMATION** may be found on the PT website:

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

Please **CALL/Text** Karen Packard 928.246.2412 for help with this process OR to let her know that you would love to Make Supply Bags to be delivered ...

**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.***

**CAPITAL DISTRICT**

**LAY SERVANT MINISTRIES ADVANCED COURSE**

**JUNE 27, 2020**

The Rio TX Conference Lay Servant Ministries Team is offering an Advanced course on the Exploring Congregational Care on June 27th from 8:30 am – 3:30 pm via Zoom.

The Course is an introduction to Congregational Care -Now and Then. There is no cost for this class and certificates will be issued.

At the end of this course the participants should be able to:

- understand and discuss the concepts of Congregational Care;
- demonstrate appropriate interactions in a caregiving situation;
- describe life and faith passages;
- discuss the relevancy of sensitivity and supportive environments;
- describe and discuss various situations and conditions they may encounter.

**AUSTIN PRESBYTERIAN SEMINARY**

**ECCENTRIC HOPE**

**BY CYNTHIA L. RIGBY**

***For everything there is a season... a time to be born, and a time to die; a time to plant, and a time to harvest; a time to weep, and a time to laugh... a time to keep, and a time to throw away... a time for war, and a time for peace.***  
– Ecclesiastes 3

I had always thought Solomon, with these words, sounded like a master of the obvious, but lately his wisdom seems a lot more layered to me. Let me explain: Of course I see there must be a certain time to plant and another time to harvest. But what I'm noticing is that it's often harder to figure out which season it is than it seems like it should be. Should we plant or should we harvest? Keep or throw away? Stay sheltered at home or go back to work?

Questions about how to discern the season and what, therefore, we should do have been pressing in to academic and ecclesial circles for years. Is it time for the mainline church to die (we've been asking) so a new kind of church may be born? Or is it time to buckle down and insist on doing things in ways we know and trust? Is it time to clear the decks for virtual learning and worship? To let avatars take communion?

These what-time-is-it type questions are also being raised by scientists who are trying to ascertain what season they believe lies just around the corner. A couple of weeks before COVID-19 hit hard in the US, for example, I heard an

NPR story that said global warming will ruin the planet by 2050. Will it soon be time to die? Within the same hour I heard another story that said artificial intelligence will rescue us by 2050. Will it soon be time to be re-born?

It seems to me that, the more baffled we are about what season it is, the more we are tempted to live our days passively, with a “let’s see what happens” attitude focused more on surviving until than on thriving now. Our hope is that we will return to “normal,” or some version of “normal,” or even a so-called “new normal:” some way of structuring our lives, with rhythms and seasons and clarity of time. If we can hold on til then, we will know what to do.

I worry, as a theologian, that we risk domesticating the doctrine of Christian hope by associating it with normalcy.

Certainly, the rhythms of our lives can be a God-given gift; but is the order of our creaturely days, the order of our worship, the order of our liturgical calendar really intended to provide a template by which we can function normally?

**... they disrupt our normal ways of being by reminding us of the source and content of our hope...**

The biblical witness associates hope not with what is normal, but what is eccentric; even foolish or mad. Not merely with hard-to-reach goals like flattening the curve, but with virtually impossible ones like wiping away every tear from every eye (Rev. 21:4). Not with restoring the inordinately classist global economy, but with “everyone sitting under their own vine and fig tree” (Micah 4:4). Not with surviving until a more recognizable season comes tomorrow, but with living — abundantly — today (Jn. 10:10).

The rhythms of work and rest and worship and the seasons of the liturgical year are not gifted to us for the purpose of maintaining normalcy in the midst of chaos. Often, in fact, they function in just the opposite way: they disrupt our normal ways of being by reminding us of the source and content of our hope that, as Mary describes it in Luke 1, turns earthly kingdoms, systems, values, and understandings inside out. A few weeks ago, for example, at the heart of the season of coronavirus deaths, we found ourselves logging into Zoom and exclaiming “Christ is risen! He is risen, indeed!” Now, that hopeful proclamation was likely disruptive in many ways. For one, it may have made even the crucial, challenging, goal of “flattening the curve” seem like too low of a bar. Christian hope, as it is shaped by resurrection, is not about making illness and death more manageable — it is about refusing to be satisfied until the sting is removed altogether (I Cor. 15:5). And that certainly is a disruptive idea — NOT a normal idea — in a context in which we are trying to be optimistic, but still realistic, about what can be accomplished. Can we really afford the eccentricity of believing in the resurrection of the body when ventilators are still in short supply?

**Can we really afford the eccentricity of believing in the resurrection of the body when ventilators are still in short supply?**

Interestingly, Christian hope — when done right — functions not to pull us out of the present and into some futuristic netherworld. Rather, it works to keep us focused on living in the present by reminding us that what is happening right now is part of a concrete, unfinished history into which God has entered and for which God takes responsibility.

Hoping God will work all things together for the good in the end makes the pain we experience today less bearable, for we know it will not, and therefore should not, be. At the same time, Moltmann insists, Christian hope does not “cheat human beings of the happiness of the present.” This is because — even in this present, painful, moment — it “perceives” the coming of the kingdom for all who have been wronged or who are suffering.<sup>1</sup>

“Normal” is what we are used to and “the new normal” is what perhaps — we could get used to. But neither are what we are called to hope for. We are to hope for the radical things God has promised, insisting in prayer that “God’s Kingdom come!” and recommitting ourselves to the work with “Thy will be done.”

It is always a season for doing the will of God. And so we circle back to a new version of the question with which I started: instead of “how do we discern the season?,” the question is “how do I discern God’s will?” But perhaps now we have an answer: by leaning in to God’s eccentric promises and working to make them so. This will only fly, by the way, if we are foolish enough to believe the kin-dom of God is more than an ideal; more than some kind of unattainable but very tasty looking carrot that keeps us running as hard as we can. On the contrary, Christian hope holds that God’s peaceable kin-dom will somehow really be made manifest here on earth — in history, in chronological time. And so we’d better brace ourselves to do the creative work of fools, to deflect the contempt of the “normalizers,” to know the anguish of pain until that day, and to open wide to the joy that comes when we don’t waste a minute in this awful, beautiful world.

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**Cynthia L. Rigby** joined the faculty of Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary in 1995. The Dallas Morning News called Professor Rigby “one of the great theologians of our time.” She is the co-chair of the Reformed Theology and History Unit of the American Academy of Religion, and is an associate editor for the Journal of Reformed Theology and the Journal of the American Academy of Religion.

**FROM THE UNITED METHODIST NEWS SERVICE**

## **Minnesota Conference**

### **Twin Cities churches offer relief after unrest**

ST. PAUL, Minn. — Fairmount Avenue and Hamline are among several Twin Cities-area United Methodist churches providing hands-on assistance in immediate cleanup and relief efforts while also exploring how to engage in the longer-term work of addressing the root causes of racism. Christa Meland has the story.

[Read story](#)

## ***Council of Bishops***

### **Bishops call on church to act to end racism**

WASHINGTON — In the aftermath of police killings of unarmed black people, United Methodist bishops call on all fellow church members to use their voices, pens, feet and hearts to end racism. Among the actions the bishops urge is daily prayer.

[Read press release](#)

[Read statement](#)

## ***Southeastern Jurisdiction***

### **White bishops stand with African Americans**

CRESTWOOD, Ky. — White bishops of the Southeastern Jurisdiction have issued a statement calling "upon all United Methodists to stand with and see our black brothers and sisters." The jurisdiction's bishops hope they expressed the opposite sentiments of the clergy letter that prompted the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. to write "Letter From a Birmingham Jail."

[Read statement](#)

### **Delay in elections upends bishops' plans**

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (UM News) — With the election of new bishops postponed until 2021 and 2022, those scheduled to retire are making plans for the interim. Heather Hahn reports.

Read story here:

The pandemic-caused postponement of General Conference has forced a readjustment of bishop retirement plans.

A third of The United Methodist Church's 66 active bishops had planned to step down this year or next after the election of their successors. But with General Conference delayed [until Aug. 29-Sept. 7, 2021](#), most of those 22 bishops are continuing in their current office.

The two exceptions are Bishop Bruce Ough, who leads the Minnesota and Dakotas conferences, and Bishop Sally Dyck, who leads the Northern Illinois Conference. Starting in January 2021, they will both move on to serve new roles with the Council of Bishops — Ough as executive secretary and Dyck as ecumenical officer.

General Conference, the denomination's top policy-making body, will ultimately set the number of bishops through 2024. That means there are no elections until United Methodists know just how many bishops they can elect.

The five jurisdictional conferences — simultaneous U.S. meetings originally scheduled for July — now are set for Nov. 10-12, 2021.

The seven central conferences — church regions in Africa, Europe and the Philippines — also are rescheduling their meetings and elections. Central conferences typically follow the U.S. jurisdictional gatherings over a period of months.

Most are still finalizing new dates. The Northern Europe and Eurasia Central Conference is now set for April 6-10, 2022, in Tallinn, Estonia.

The Book of Discipline, the denomination's policy book, requires central conferences meet within a year of General Conference.

For now, the denomination faces only two vacancies in the near future. Since both Ough and Dyck serve in the North Central Jurisdiction, they and their fellow bishops in that jurisdiction are drafting a plan to provide episcopal oversight in 2021. That plan will go before the Council of Bishops no later than June 30. The council has final approval on any interim bishops.

The North Central Jurisdiction also has named an Episcopal Leadership Task Force [that is looking to reduce the jurisdiction's bishops from nine to eight, starting in 2022](#).

The pandemic has created an unprecedented situation that will require some flexibility — or at least a pause — in the usual flow of church business.

The Book of Discipline says U.S. bishops must retire on Aug. 31 following jurisdictional conference if they turn 68 before July 1 of that year. The goal is to avoid bishops reaching the mandatory clergy retirement age of 72 in the middle of their four-year terms.

In the Northern Europe and Eurasia Central Conference, bishops have term limits. In the Philippines, bishops must run for re-election every four years to remain in active office.

Suffice it to say, church leaders — including bishop candidates — are now in a period of waiting.

The following 20 bishops have postponed stepping down at least through 2021.

**Northeastern Jurisdiction**

- Bishop Sudarshana Devadhar — New England Conference
- Bishop Jeremiah Park — Susquehanna Conference

**South Central Jurisdiction**

- Bishop W. Earl Bledsoe — New Mexico and Northwest Texas conferences
- Bishop Michael McKee — North Texas Conference
- Bishop J. Michael Lowry — Central Texas Conference

**Southeastern Jurisdiction**

- Bishop Lawson Bryan — South Georgia Conference
- Bishop Paul Leeland — Western North Carolina Conference
- Bishop James Swanson — Mississippi Conference
- Bishop Mary Virginia Taylor — Holston Conference
- Bishop Hope Morgan Ward — North Carolina Conference

**Western Jurisdiction**

- Bishop Grant Hagiya — California-Pacific Conference
- Bishop Bob Hoshibata — Desert Southwest Conference

**Africa Central Conference**

- Bishop Eben Nhwatiwa — Zimbabwe Area
- Bishop Jose Quipungo — East Angola Area

**Congo Central Conference**

- Bishop Gabriel Unda — East Congo Area

**West Africa Central Conference**

- Bishop Benjamin Boni — Côte d'Ivoire Episcopal Area

**Central and Southern Europe Central Conference**

- Bishop Patrick Streiff — Central and Southern Europe area

**Northern Europe and Eurasia Central Conference**

- Bishop Christian Alsted — Nordic-Baltic Area

**Philippines Central Conference**

- Bishop Ciriaco Francisco — Manila Area (central Philippines)
- Bishop Rodolfo "Rudy" Juan — Davao Area (southern Philippines)

**ECCLESIASTES 3**

**THE MESSAGE (MSG)**

There's a Right Time for Everything

**3** There's an opportune time to do things, a right time for everything on the earth:

<sup>2-8</sup> A right time for birth and another for death,

A right time to plant and another to reap,

A right time to kill and another to heal,

A right time to destroy and another to construct,

A right time to cry and another to laugh,

A right time to lament and another to cheer,

A right time to make love and another to abstain,

A right time to embrace and another to part,

A right time to search and another to count your losses,

A right time to hold on and another to let go,

A right time to rip out and another to mend,

A right time to shut up and another to speak up,

A right time to love and another to hate,

A right time to wage war and another to make peace.

<sup>9-13</sup> But in the end, does it really make a difference what anyone does? I've had a good look at what God has given us to do—busywork, mostly. True, God made everything beautiful in itself and in its time—but he's left us in the dark, so we can never know what God is up to, whether he's coming or going. I've decided that there's nothing better to do than go ahead and have a good time and get the most we can out of life. That's it—eat, drink, and make the most of your job. It's God's gift.