



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

Cedar Park First United Methodist Church

Connections

Newsletter

Fall Work Day 2020

The Trustees are like a Property Committee for the church. Among our responsibilities is to see that the buildings and grounds that God has entrusted to us are maintained and cared for. Even though we are crazy enough to become Trustees, we are not crazy enough to think that we can do all of this work by ourselves. One of our biggest jobs is to engage you all, the congregation, in this work. These buildings and these grounds are your church home, too.

We do this by sponsoring Work Days. In the past there has been one Work Day in the spring and one Work Day in the fall. During this Year of COVID, our Spring Work Day was cancelled. COVID is still around, but we decided **not** to cancel the Fall Work Day, but to take a different approach.

Currently we cannot work in a large group on one specific day at the same time, so we decided to make the 2020 Fall Work Day last from November 1st until December 31st. We figure that if a pandemic can redefine what “normal life” is, then it is a small leap to redefine the meaning of “Work Day.”

We have a [list of the tasks](#) that need to be done to care for and maintain what God has given us. Some of these tasks are inside tasks and some

FALL WORK DAY continued on p. 8

Dear CPFUMC Family,

Here we are and another month is gone. How do you feel about your relationship with God, your fellow faith members, family, and friends? Whether you have become a shut-in for health reasons or just not getting out as much, we all are missing each other. Before this pandemic started, I considered myself somewhat of an introvert but not now. Just ask the people I run into at the store; I will not stop talking. I, like others need physical interaction with people. You know I heard the best advice the other day, **“STOP emailing, texting, snap chatting, and whatever else you do. PICK UP THE PHONE and call.”** I realize this is somewhat an old fashion thing to do, but it is great to hear a live person’s voice. Let us start up THE PHONE TREES again. Ms. Hyacinth told me a few months ago this was the best way to reach people.

COUNCIL CHAIR continued on p. 6

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JESUS' ROCK STAR CORNER

Submitted by Carolyn Smith

The Jesus Rock Stars are going strong. The children decided they are not letting this pandemic get them down. As they say in the theater, "The show must go on". Each child has a copy of their scripts and with the help of their families will be producing a Christmas Eve performance for your pleasure.

Our bible studies continue. We have studied forgiveness, kindness, and where God is in our lives.



Josie, James, and Rachel are getting their bibles.



Kaitlyn is demonstrating how not to be kind.



Josie is showing how God has a ripple effect in our lives.



We now see that keeping God in the center of our life spreads to all areas of our life.

If you would like to join us during Sunday School or know a child in kindergarten through fifth grade, please email Ms. Carolyn for your Zoom invitation,
carolynsmith2215@gmail.com.

BE LIGHT YOUTH November 2020

Submitted by Pastor Suzette

BE LIGHT YOUTH have been busier than ever We ended September with mission work. We were joined by Girls Scout Troop 1946 and together we completed the mural at the Montopolis Friendship Community Center. It is on full display for all driving along 183 into Austin. All the YOUTH were able to sign the work of art. In October, we pondered the importance of communion and community in a faith life and learned new tools for coping with anxiety. We kicked off November with the dismantling of the pumpkin patch and giving the shed a good cleaning. These YOUTH have really worked their way tot he Holy Land.

Speaking of Holy Land, we are nearly to our \$37,000 goal. This is the estimated cost of the trip but not final cost. Until we get confirmation of lodgings, activities and plane tickets, the cost is flexible. So we will continue to earn funds to make sure no one is left behind. We still have space for 3 more people to join us but you must let me know before the end of November when we start to finalize accommodations. In addition to being kept in our own "pod" as we travel through the biblical land, I have planned more opportunities for us to outdoors - walking the path of Jesus as his did his ministries - mostly outdoors too! Israel has installed great precautions for tourists and I would be happy to discuss any questions. We want you to join our journey!

ON-LINE AUCTION: PLEASE PLEASE PLEASE...copy and paste this link onto your social media - and forward it to your family and friends. I am adding new items frequently. We have \$300 shoes for \$25 to soaker hose to gift cards. You can get your holiday shopping done and help us cross the Atlantic Ocean at the same time.

<https://www.32auctions.com/HolyLand2021finishline>

We thank our church family for all the ways we have been supported for this journey of a life time. Please help us cross the finish line and get everyone there.

- Nov 8: In person worship/discussion; finish the shed clean up
- Nov 15 in- person DEATH rescheduled
- Nov 22 in-person: Hanging of the Greens and first of two PAINTING the rainbow bridge for ACH
- WEEK of Thanksgiving break: Family Outdoor Movie and campfire with s'mores date TBD
- NOV 27: MISSION project with BONNIE HOW!! We are headed to Pastor Bonnie's new church to build picnic tables for their congregation!! Bonnie will hang out with us and feed us too!! ALL YOUTH and parents are welcome for this mini-YOUTH reunion
- Nov 29 on-line Advent starts
- Dec 6 in-person: finish painting the Rainbow Bridge for the ACH
- Dec 13th Christmas Party



A Child's Haven Happenings

October was an eventful month! So much going on here at the preschool. At drop-off and pick-up each day, you could see the amazing Pumpkin Patch! What a great job CPFUMC staff and volunteers did setting up the patch and giving our families a place to take pictures and celebrate the season with our little ones. Speaking of CPFUMC, I would like to thank Miss Jane for volunteering her time everyday to help us with drop off and pick up, as well as sub for a day! We appreciate her and all her hard work.

If you have, or know anyone that has age appropriate toys for our 18-24 month class that are no longer in use, we are looking to refresh our classroom and would greatly appreciate your donations.

Teacher's Wish List:

- Soccer Balls/Kickballs
- Scoop Shovels for playground
- 2 Plastic reading chairs for our 4's reading corner (deep seated kids plastic chair from IKEA)
- CD Player for 4's Classroom



Final Push for Restroom Renovation Funding

We need to make the final push to get over the funding hump for our restroom renovation project. The most recent preliminary construction proposal is \$52,000. We have \$38,000 pledged so far. We need about \$14,000 more to have enough funds to start and complete the project. \$26,000 has been contributed to date and we have it in the bank. Thank you very much to the 35 members and friends who have contributed one or more times to this project so far! We are almost there!

The restroom renovation features such amenities as

- 12 new LED lights in the restrooms
- A bi-level drinking fountain
- 3 new sinks
- 2 new super quiet exhaust fans
- Powder coated metal restroom partitions
- 10 ft laminate counter tops
- Ceramic tile floor
- 4 ft wet wall with ceramic base

The photo below will give you some idea of what the finished restrooms might look like. A far cry from our present situation!



Please consider making a pledge or contribution by January 5, 2021.

COUNCIL CHAIR continued from p. 1

Have you ever wondered what happens during one of the church's committees' meetings? Decisions that affect the church and members are discussed and made at the meetings. Would you like to be part of those decisions? Please find one of the Golden Tickets in this newsletter, which will allow you to attend a council or trustee meeting. We welcome fresh ideas.

Did you hear about the **onsite services in the outdoor chapel?** The service begins each Sunday at 8:30 a.m., weather permitting. Peter and Suzette give their excellent sermons while Laurel Fabian places the piano. Please visit the church website and follow the link to reserve your seat. If you need help booking your seat, let me know.

Does your attendance at the church service matter? The answer is an absolute **YES**. The church is required to report the attendance of all activities to the Church Conference. It would help if you listed your name in the comment section on Facebook while viewing the service. We cannot count your attendance unless you comment.

The trustees see that our buildings and grounds are always in top shape. The trustees purchased two new computers, new lighting in the Multi Ministries Building, replaced shrubs, and much more. As with most projects, the trustees cannot do it all. They will be hosting a Fall Workday, November 1st through December 31st for you to sign up and help.

The Membership Care and Hospitality committee is contacting people who have experienced a difficult or joyous event in their lives. Please be sure to let us know your needs through your comments during service or by submitting a prayer request through the church website.

The church is getting ready for the area wide Annual Charge Conference on December 6th. At this Conference, the church will submit the yearly reports of attendance, funds, activities, and such to the Conference.

Did you visit the Pumpkin Patch? A huge thank you to Bob Bowker, the Great Pumpkin.

Do not forget to support our youth. The Holy Land trip is still short funds. Please participate in their fundraisers.

Have you seen a need that the church is not addressing? Please attend a council or trustee meeting and let us know. You might be that lifeline we need to get the project completed.

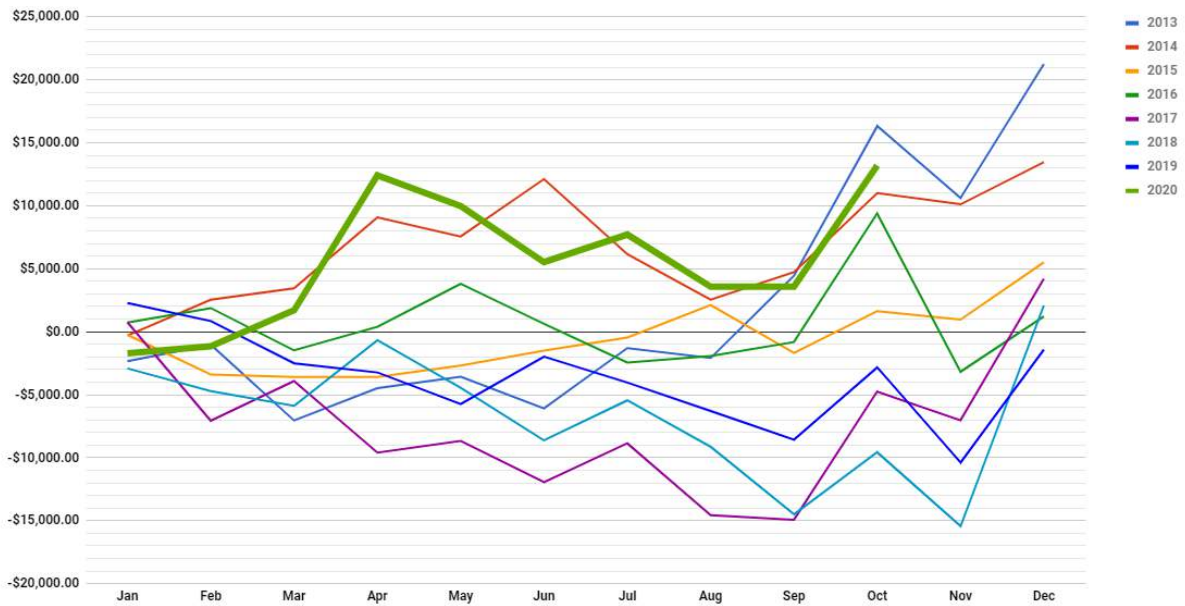
Your council chairman,

Carolyn

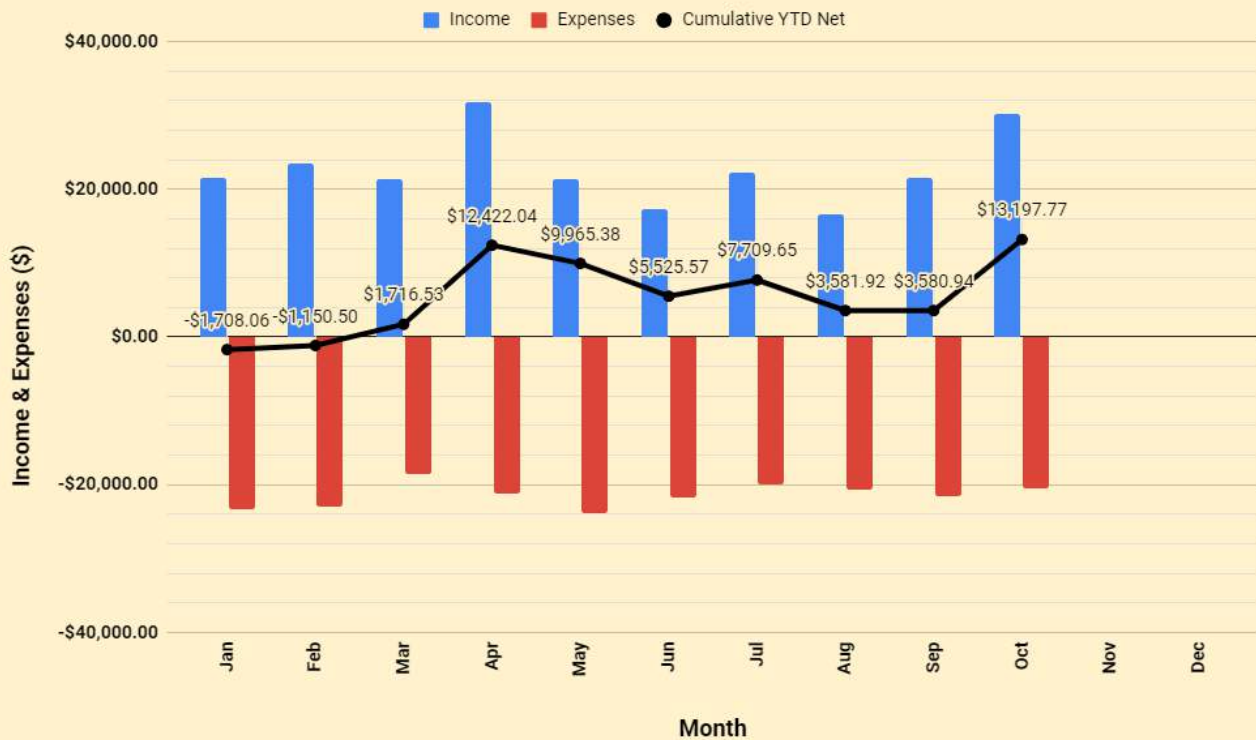


Cedar Park First United Methodist Church Financial Information January-October 2020

Cumulative YTD Net (2013-2020)



Monthly Income, Expenses and Cumulative YTD Net 2020



FALL WORK DAY continued from p. 1

of them are outside tasks We are asking you to pick a task or two, sign up for one or more of them online and then complete them at your leisure on a schedule that fits your life. The only condition is that we want to get as many of them as possible done by the end of the year. So, the **Fall 2020 Work Day begins on November 1st and ends on December 31st.**

Please help out as you are able by signing up for a task or two online using the church website home page. When you are done with the task, please mark it completed. We will celebrate our Fall 2020 Work Day accomplishments in the New Year.



Church Contacts

Find us online at cpfumc.org
or call the church Tues-Thurs between 9 and 2
at this phone number:
(512) 335-9540

Want to contact a Church Leader or submit
something for a future Newsletter?



Pastor Peter Castles
Assoc. Pastor/Youth Dir. Suzette Thorpe Johnson
Church Council Chair Carolyn Smith
Music Director/Pianist Jodi Blount
Newsletter Editor Jill Lundstrom

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Be sure to put "Newsletter" in the subject for Connections submissions!

CPFUMC Calendar November 2020

Click [here](#) to go to the online calendar

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Fall Work Day 2020 ON_LINE auction for 8:30am - Outdoor 9am - Children's 10am - Worship Live 11:30am - Youth	2 9am - Tea Time 6:30pm - TRUSTEES 7:30pm - Centering	3 9:30am - Morning 10am - Bible Study 11am - Prayer Shawl 7:30pm - AA Men's	4	5	6	7 11am - Memorial
8 8:30am - Outdoor 9am - Children's 10am - Worship Live 11am - Choir 11:30am - Youth	9 9am - Tea Time 6:30pm - FINANCE 7:30pm - Centering	10 9:30am - Morning 10am - Bible Study 11am - Prayer Shawl 7:30pm - AA Men's	11	12	13	14
15 8:30am - Outdoor 9am - Children's 10am - Worship Live 11:30am - Youth	16 9am - Tea Time 6:30pm - Church 7:30pm - Centering	17 9:30am - Morning 10am - Bible Study 11am - Prayer Shawl 7:30pm - AA Men's	18	19 9:30am - Mbr Care	20	21
22 8:30am - Outdoor 9am - Children's 10am - Worship Live 11:30am - Youth	23 9am - Tea Time 7:30pm - Centering	24 9:30am - Morning 10am - Bible Study 11am - Prayer Shawl 7:30pm - AA Men's	25	26 THANKSGIVING	27 NEWSLETTER Input	28
29 8:30am - Outdoor 9am - Children's 10am - Worship Live 11:30am - Youth	30 9am - Tea Time 7:30pm - Centering	1 End On-line auction 9:30am - Morning 10am - Bible Study 11am - Prayer Shawl 7:30pm - AA Men's	2	3	4	5 10am - UMW Advent