



*A Spiritual Oasis Committed to Christ,*

June 2021

Cedar Park First United Methodist Church

# *Connections*

## Newsletter

---

### **Sanctuary Building Renovation Project Update**

#### **Come and Visit June 26**

Like Jane's dad used to say after he called for all kids to clean their rooms: "I liked not to know the place" – meaning we had done a good job in getting all the toys off the bed and floor and pushed under the bed (Jane's personal favorite storage area second only to her closet) to pass dad's post-cleaning inspections. If all four kids passed the weekly inspection, the usual reward was a trip to the Dairy Queen for a small soft-swirl ice cream cone. Save *Saturday June 26* for an afternoon open house, 2-4pm. Come and make your own personal inspection of the Sanctuary Restoration and Renovation – trip to Dairy Queen afterwards, optional.

#### **History & Background**

Renovation of our Sanctuary Building restrooms was selected as a high priority capital project at a congregation meeting on February 17, 2019. It competed with other capital project ideas such as an outside deck on the south side of the Sanctuary Building, a new Main Road Sign, replacing the Sanctuary Building carpets and providing some Sanctuary chairs with arm rests for people with mobility limitations. On September 19, 2019, following several meetings with representatives from the Texas Methodist Foundation, we decided that the timing was

**RENOVATION continued on p. 5**

### **Letter from Council Chair**

Dear CPFUMC Members,

Have you seen the restoration/renovation YouTube video updates? There have been a few hiccups. The City required a new sewer line, a mop closet, and low flush toilets. Our outstanding trustees have overcome all the obstacles. I want to say a heartfelt "Thank You" to them all.

### **Come and see for yourself at the Open House and Sanctuary Walk Through Saturday, June 26<sup>th</sup>**

And, the best news:

**Onsite services in the sanctuary are still on schedule, Sunday, July 4<sup>th</sup>.**

Be sure to mark your calendars.

*Carolyn*

#### **ALSO IN THIS ISSUE:**

<u>Jesus Rock Stars Corner</u>	<u>p. 2</u>
<u>Be Light Youth News</u>	<u>p. 3</u>
<u>June Calendar &amp; Contacts</u>	<u>p. 7</u>

## JESUS' ROCK STAR CORNER

Submitted by Carolyn Smith

One of the lessons we studied this month was the story of Ruth and Naomi. We see genuine love through these children's eyes and hearts, like the love Ruth showed Naomi.

The children made sandwiches for their moms for Mother's Day.



To join our Sunday School Zoom sessions, please contact Carolyn Smith, [carolynsmith2215@gmail.com](mailto:carolynsmith2215@gmail.com), or Amanda Theriot, [Amanda.theriot@icloud.com](mailto:Amanda.theriot@icloud.com).

# BE LIGHT YOUTH May 2021

Submitted by Pastor Suzette

## The month of May was a dynamic time of celebrations:

1. BE LIGHT YOUTH created hanging gardens for their parents in appreciation for all the things parents do day in and out.
2. We created tie dye shirts as nod to all the colorful ways the Holy Spirit impacts our lives for Pentecost.
3. We had Senior Recognition 2x! The first time, we lifted Sarah Longoria, Spring Middleton as graduation high school seniors and David Longoria for graduating college with his EMT credentials. We circled back once more to include high school senior, Karsten Lundstrom who had to miss the first time due to schedule conflicts. We presented each person with the shawls the church had prayed over as well as a James Avery cross keychain for the high school seniors which read: CPFUMC loves you - GO BE LIGHT. I encourage you to check out the video on the FB page. Just scroll the worship video for May 16 and May 30 and forward the video until the mission moment at the very end of the worship service. It really was touching to hear



BE LIGHT continued on p. 4

## BE LIGHT YOUTH (continued)

how you, the church family, have impacted these young people as they prepare to serve God in new ways.

4. Senior Send Off - We headed to ZDT's Amusement in Seguin, TX for roller coasters and water slides before Spring and her sisters headed to Japan the next day.

Looking forward: **UMARMY MISSION TRIP June 27-July 3rd in Corpus Christi.**

UMARMY is a non-profit affiliated with UMC founded over 40 years ago to facilitate mission trips for middle and high school youth groups in the Southwest and Eastern USA. UMARMY plans out, handles insurance, housing, programming, food and more through many volunteers so that YOUTH from all over Texas can gather and grow in service to Christ. The YOUTH experience hard work in Texas summer heat serving those who struggle from building ramps to hurricane repair. We start our days with early worship focus, breakfast then off the work. We use our lunch breaks for another bible reflection and discussion before picking up the work once more. After we shower at the end of the day, we eat then worship again then have fun. There are theme nights and games intended to build friendships which last through the years. The goal is to spark, nurture and give space for these young humans to claim their relationship with Christ through mission work and community.

This year CPFUMC will be bringing **SEVEN YOUTH including THREE whom have NEVER been on mission nor attend a church regularly** and TWO whom had been on a break from our church for a little while. Shawn has been actively recruiting and inviting YOUTH.

### **WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT:**

please consider **sponsoring a YOUTH for \$250** (especially one of our novice YOUTHS) or our adult volunteers

if you prefer to buy items - supplies needed

- paint roller covers (got loads of handles just need the covers)
- drop clothes
- paint pan liners

Cash for supplies while we are on the trip - there is always some unknown items we have to buy to do the tasks

Every dollar will make an impact both on the YOUTH and the clients as we serve as the Hands and Feet of Christ. Please contact Pastor Suzette with questions or to let her know you are supporting the mission financially to help with planning ([suzette@cpfumc.org](mailto:suzette@cpfumc.org))

### **HOLY LAND TRIP COUNTDOWN: 12 months to go**

**Holy Land Trip is rescheduled to Saturday, May 28 - Sunday, June 5, 2022**

Due to the pandemic restrictions, we were forced to reschedule our trip until next year. There are still three places open for those who might decide to travel with us in light of this change. The YOUTH are still doing tasks to earn money for travel. Please contact Pastor Suzette for info or to schedule the YOUTH.

## **RENOVATION continued from p. 1**

not right for a large, formal fund-raising project and that we would raise funding by ourselves over a longer time frame. The COVID-19 pandemic hit the entire USA in early 2020 and the idea for this project lay dormant for several months. In-person indoor worship services were suspended by a vote of the Church Council on March 17, 2020. The church office and buildings were also closed. The church embarked on a [livestreaming project](#) to fill the void for worship services. The existence of the pandemic suggested that the timing of a renovation project was good, considering that the building was not being used during the suspension.

In the May 2020 Church Council meeting, the council approved a motion from Jane Howard to ask the Trustees to “propose a stretch goal for the ADA bathroom” thus re-launching our effort on this project in the middle of the pandemic. Jane wrote an article entitled, [“What Did You Do This Summer” for our monthly Connections newsletter](#). This launched our fundraising effort for the project. On June 16, 2020 we sent the congregation (100) letters requesting pledges and contributions. By January 2021 we had sufficient funds raised to begin the project. We selected Qual-Con G.C., LLC construction company to perform the work. Barbara King managed the contractor selection and design input from the church.

Then we were thrown a big curve ball.

### **2021 Winter Storm Damage**

Sometime between 1:34 pm on Tuesday, February 16, 2021 and 1:22 pm on Wednesday, February 17, 2021 we sustained [a burst, insulated copper pipe in the attic of the Sanctuary building](#). The first indication was a high humidity alarm on TS-3 which is located in the Narthex near the door to the Nursery. The indication was 82% humidity at 1:22 pm on Wednesday the 17th. For reference, the humidity in the MMB was below 50% at the time due to the cold weather. We thought that we had the water supply turned off by around 8am on Thursday February 18, 2021, but an irrigation valve was shut, not the building water supply valve. Shutting off the water supply valve was complicated by the fact that the valve covers were under about 4-6 inches of snow and ice making them very difficult to locate. The water supply valve was finally shut off a little before midnight on Thursday, February 18, 2021 by CoCP as our Trustees found some pictures to help them locate the shutoff valve. The burst pipe probably ran for the better part of 2 days. During all of this time Williamson county was under a state of disaster declaration which urged the public to stay off the roads beginning Sunday, February 14, 2021.

### **Storm Cleanup**

Water damage to ceilings, walls and floors occurred inside the Sanctuary Building from February 17-18 as a result of the burst pipe in the attic caused by several days of severe cold and winter storms. After the water to the building was finally shut off around midnight on February 18, we began a cleanup effort the following day. Cleanup involved removing all of the water on the floor areas of the entire building, then removing the wet drywall and wet insulation which had collapsed from the ceiling areas in the hallway, restrooms, nursery and sanctuary. Carpeted areas were cleaned. Furniture and room furnishings were also cleaned. The vast portion of the [initial cleanup](#) was completed on February 19, but minor cleanup and dry-out with floor fans continued through February 23.

### **Water Damage Remediation**

Our insurance adjuster measured the dampness in the walls and recommended that all the exterior and interior walls be dried out since they had humidity readings of about 98%. We then began [an effort to remediate](#) the effects of the water damage to the building. This involved cutting out and removing the lower 2 feet of drywall on each wall on at least one side, removing the adjacent wall insulation and drying out the wooden sill plate and lower portion of the wall studs. Remediation

## **RENOVATION continued from p. 5**

work began on February 24 and continued through March 1, 2021 when the building humidity was dried out to less than 50%. On March 16, 2021 an [Assessment Team, led by a church Trustee](#), sorted out the damaged and undamaged hymnals, Bibles and Sanctuary chairs and filed a claim with our insurance company. At least we got credit for some demolition work because of the pipe break!

### **Construction Begins**

Construction began on February 24, 2021 with the Demolition Phase of the restroom renovation project. Since then, construction has been ongoing through its various phases, continuing through today:

[Demolition Phase](#) (February 24, 2021 – March 3, 2021)

[Sawcutting Phase](#) (March 3, 2021 – March 22, 2021)

◊ [\(Currently in progress\) Rough Plumbing Phase](#) (Begun March 10, 2021)

[Re-Pour Phase](#) (April 15, 2021)

[Framing Phase](#) (April 17, 2021)

[Rough Electrical Phase](#) (April 20, 2021 – May 10, 2021)

◊ [\(Currently in progress\) Finish Plumbing Phase](#) (Begun April 21, 2021)

◊ [\(Currently in progress\) Additional Network Drops](#) (Begun May 12, 2021)

◊ [\(Currently in progress\) Drywall Installation Phase](#) (Begun May 13, 2021)

◊ [\(Currently in progress\) HVAC Remodeling](#) (Begun May 13, 2021)

◊ [\(Currently in progress\) Tile Work](#) (Begun May 20, 2021)

◊ [\(Currently in progress\) Suspended Ceiling](#) (Begun May 20, 2021)

Millwork (not yet started)

Finish Electrical (not yet started)

Final Inspections (not yet started)

Final Clean (not yet started)

### **Changes and Upgrades**

During construction and remediation of the water damage, we took advantage of the situation to make some additional changes and upgrades to the Sanctuary building. We added four hard-wired network drops, two in the Nursery, one in the Narthex and one on the east wall of the Youth Room. All plumbing in the attic is now PEX (cross-linked polyethylene) which is freeze-proof material. We will be adding recessed lighting in the Narthex and hallway to replace the vintage globes of the 1986-1987 time frame when the building was originally constructed. The City of Cedar Park has required us to install a mop closet (in the Youth Room) as part of the restroom renovation. Cedar Park also required us to completely lower and rebuild the sewer line. At least the toilets will flush better now! We will be getting completely new kitchen counter tops and a new, deep sink and faucet. The floors of the restrooms are now ceramic tile. The Sanctuary floor will also be a wood-grained ceramic tile. We will be getting approximately 40 new sanctuary chairs to replace chairs damaged in the winter storm. The kitchen flooring will also be replaced with upgraded vinyl tile. There will be new carpeting, two sinks for the women's room and an outside window for the men, not to mention the all-modern-update will meet Americans with Disabilities Requirements, and both restrooms will have recessed lighting and wall sconces – a real upgrade in lighting. Since we have now removed the offending hot water heater and broken copper pipe from the attic, we will be installing smaller, on-demand hot water heaters in the Mop Closet and in the Kitchen.

All of these changes have been financed by member contributions and our insurance claim proceeds.

# CPFUMC Calendar June 2021

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

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
30	31	1	2	3	4	5
6:30am - Holy Land trip						
8:30am - Outdoor 9am - Children's 10am - Worship Live	4pm - Piano 7:30pm - Centering	9:30am - Morning 10am - Bible Study 10am - HCCM 11am - Prayer Shawl 7:30pm - AA Men's	5:30pm - Piano	3:45pm - Piano	6:30pm - Alcoholics	
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Holy Land trip						
8:30am - Outdoor 9am - Children's 10am - Worship Live	4pm - Piano 6:30pm - TRUSTEES 7:30pm - Centering	9:30am - Morning 10am - Bible Study 10am - HCCM 11am - Prayer Shawl 7:30pm - AA Men's	5:30pm - Piano	3:45pm - Piano	6:30pm - Alcoholics	
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
8:30am - Outdoor 9am - Children's 10am - Worship Live 8pm - Youth @	6:30pm - FINANCE 7:30pm - Centering	9:30am - Morning 10am - Bible Study 10am - HCCM 11am - Prayer Shawl 7:30pm - AA Men's	5:30pm - Piano	9:30am - Mbr Care	6:30pm - Alcoholics	
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
8:30am - Outdoor 9am - Children's 10am - Worship Live 3:30pm - Worship @ 8pm - Youth @	7:30pm - Centering	9:30am - Morning 10am - Bible Study 10am - HCCM 11am - Prayer Shawl 7:30pm - AA Men's	5:30pm - Piano		NEWSLETTER Input 6:30pm - Alcoholics	
27	28	29	30	1	2	3
8:30am - Outdoor 9am - Children's 10am - Worship Live 8pm - Youth @	6:30pm - TRUSTEES 7:30pm - Centering	9:30am - Morning 10am - Bible Study 10am - HCCM 11am - Prayer Shawl 7:30pm - AA Men's	5:30pm - Piano		6:30pm - Alcoholics	

## Church Contacts

Find us online at [cpfumc.org](http://cpfumc.org)  
or call the church Tues-Thurs between 9 and 2 at (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

[peter@cpfumc.org](mailto:peter@cpfumc.org)  
[suzette@cpfumc.org](mailto:suzette@cpfumc.org)  
[carolynsmith2215@gmail.com](mailto:carolynsmith2215@gmail.com)  
[jodi\\_blount@hotmail.com](mailto:jodi_blount@hotmail.com)  
[lund121@me.com](mailto:lund121@me.com)

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

