



*A Spiritual Oasis Committed to Christ,*

July 2021

Cedar Park First United Methodist Church

# *Connections*

## Newsletter

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**Church Family,**

**It is time to come home.**

We planned the restroom renovation, and then the ice storm came. So the renovation turned into a restoration. What a colossal mess?

If you did not get a chance to stop by during the Open House, there is a beautiful surprise for your eyes. The tile floors, the bright new colors, the restrooms, down to the kitchen sink are all so beautiful. It makes your heart feel good. The sanctuary is unbelievable.

I want to express my sincere thanks to all the trustees who worked endlessly on this project. And each of you for your prayers and donations, which made it possible.

**The doors are open again!** Beginning Sunday, July 4<sup>th</sup>, we will hold one service at 10:00 a.m. The service will be available in-person as well as live-streamed. Please take all personal precautions you feel are needed. Masks and a hand sanitizer will be available for your use if you desire.

Until further notice, we will not hold the 8:30 a.m. outdoor service.

Sunday School and other groups are encouraged to begin meeting. Please contact your instructor for time and location.

We need to let our neighbors know we are alive, well, and thriving. Do you remember **National Night Out**? This year Cedar Park is celebrating Tuesday, August 3<sup>rd</sup>, in the evening hours. Please see the article later in this publication and let me know where you can help.

The Doors Are Open,

Carolyn Smith

Council Chairman

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## JESUS' ROCK STAR CORNER

Submitted by Carolyn Smith

There were discussions and science experiments. We talked about Jesus's kindness and how his love spreads through us to everyone.

Did you know that a little bit of kindness spreads quickly?



## JESUS' ROCK STAR CORNER, continued

Like the beautiful colors that extend when you place a drop of water on a water-based marker?

Did you know it is easier to float in saltwater than freshwater?



Just like the egg in the saltwater, God holds us up every 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 UMArmy July 2021



**You are needed!**

**Tuesday, August 3<sup>rd</sup>  
National Night Out**

**Let's get ready!**



**What will encourage our neighbors  
to visit our church?**



**A variety of activities to draw the most people.**



**How can you help:**

Who can organize a car show?  
Who will run a booth?  
Who can I contact to help?

**Some activity ideas:**

Graffiti wall  
Scavenger hunt  
Sidewalk art  
Gigantic bubbles  
Games from the church attic

**Information groups:**

Tai Chi  
Square Dancers  
Basketball coach  
Soccer Coach  
A Child's Haven  
Vacation Bible School

**Refreshments:**

Hot dogs Smores Water  
What about cotton candy, snow cones, and popcorn?  
Does anyone have a machine?

**Advertising:** Social Media - Fliers



It has been too long since we got together and had a great time. Let's make this an evening to talk about for a long time. We need you and everyone to make National Night Out a success.  
Please email or call Carolyn Smith, [carolynsmith2215@gmail.com](mailto:carolynsmith2215@gmail.com), 512.970.9087 with your thoughts and ideas.





## REMEMBER WITH CARDS AND PRAYERS

**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	Andy Carver 109 Estrella Crossing #101 Georgetown, TX 78628. 512 350 6705	Marilyn Hartman The Pointe 450 Discovery Blvd Cedar Park, TX 78613
Holly Laughlin 13213 Fawn Valley Dr. Cedar Park, Tx 78613	Cynthia Lawrence The Springs Rehab 1500 Cottonwood Creek Cedar Park, TX 78613 <b>737.843. 7011(new!!)</b>	Myrl McKellar The Pointe 450 Discovery Blvd Cedar Park, TX 78613 512.966.3063 <a href="mailto:myrlpointe@yahoo.com">myrlpointe@yahoo.com</a>
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Adalid Verastegui 700 Spring Brook Lane Leander, Tx 78641		

# Change Order Notices Finally Reconciled for Unexpected Expenses

Submitted by Jane Howard

You may have wondered how the subcontractor could have started digging the city-required deeper sewer line to the street in March and yet made no progress for months - it was like time stood still. The Trustees shepherding the project on site were puzzled – why aren't they making progress on a simple ditch?

The first change order notice was to address this new city specification. “We can do this,” the Trustees thought because we raised a bit more than we needed. The Trustees approved the new \$2531 expense to complete the trench.

Well, the first day of digging near the building, they found very fine dirt and then they ran into a solid wall of limestone. Digging stopped ostensibly “because we have to get a bigger machine that can pulverize the rocks.” What was going on behind the scenes was, a negotiation between the contractor and the subcontractor to reconcile the unexpected additional cost.

Work stopped for three months. The two finally agreed they would have to come back to the

Trustees with another change order request. The discovered rock was beyond their normal expectations. Everyone expected the trench to the street and the piping would cost \$2531.

In reality, it would take another \$3250 over and above the amount we authorized last March and all due to the unforeseen seam of limestone, which meant different equipment and more labor hours. By this time, the Trustees were very

eager just to see the trench completed. “We’ll come up with the money, just finish the trench.” The trench is awaiting inspection as we write.

Now we are reporting to you. **Can you help us honor our commitment to pay for this additional unexpected expense, over and above what has already been raised?** A few dollars here and there should make up the difference. Be sure to designate any new donation for “rest room renovation” – this is part of updating our new rest rooms to ADA standards and not due to the storm.





## **Laces for Leander (athletic shoe / sock drive)**

It is time for the HCCM annual athletic shoe / sock drive. The distribution of shoes will be July 31<sup>st</sup>. However, the drive to seek athletic shoes / socks donations is beginning now.

To refresh your memory, since there was not an athletic shoe / sock drive last year due to Covid, let me explain what this is all about.

Each year HCCM conducts this drive to aid students who attend the Leander ISD schools and are registered at their school to receive free or reduced lunches. These students will come to HCCM on July 31<sup>st</sup> and get to pick out a pair of athletic shoes / socks both girls and boys at no cost to them or their parents.

The schools encompass all grades Kindergarten through 12<sup>th</sup> grade. For ease of figuring this means approximately 5 years old to approximately 18 years old.

HCCM (not the recipients) is emphasizing that the athletic shoes be name brand. It is their belief that this benefits the students physically as well as emotionally. Physically, as these shoes will provide for an extended length of wear. Emotionally, these shoes will put them on an emotional level with the other students who own such shoes as a matter of course.

What are name brand shoes? Some examples are; Nike, Reebok, Converse, Adidas, Vans, and Under Armor.

How can you participate? You can purchase a pair / pairs of athletic shoes or socks and leave them in the cardboard box at the front of the Sanctuary building and I will get them to HCCM. Another option is that you can drop them off at my house (603 Victoria Cove Cedar Park. A third option is to let me know via text or e mail (512-771-1680, [bob927bowker@gmail.com](mailto:bob927bowker@gmail.com)) and I will arrange to pick them up.

How large is this effort? In 2019 HCCM gave away over 700 pairs of athletic shoes / socks. The objective this year is for 1,000 pairs of athletic shoes / socks.

It is desirable to obtain the shoe donations as early as we can so HCCM will know how many shoes they need to purchase to make sure they have enough for everyone.

Thank you, in advance, for all of you who participate.



# Thank You!



A big Thank You to all of those who volunteered during the pandemic to help make the Outdoor Worship Service work. For setting up and taking down the PA system early in the morning, arranging and wiping down the benches, managing the hand sanitizer and signed waivers, we are grateful for your work: David Gibbs, Carolyn Smith, Barbara King, Dean Feazell, Sheryl & Dan McNichol and Jane & Neil Howard.

Our faithful pastors, Peter and Suzette were wonderful for planning and being there every Sunday (except for the rain cancellations). We really appreciate your efforts for this unique worship opportunity! You can't believe how beautiful the music was from Jodi and Laurel as we were singing with the birds!

The final regular outdoor worship service for a while will be on Sunday, June 26, 2021 at 8:30 am in the Memorial Outdoor Sanctuary. No need to signup in advance; just show up and you're good to go!

## 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

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

[peter@cpfumc.org](mailto:peter@cpfumc.org)  
[suzette@cpfumc.org](mailto:suzette@cpfumc.org)  
[carolynsmith2215@gmail.com](mailto:carolynsmith2215@gmail.com)  
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# CPFUMC Calendar July 2021

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

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
27	28	29	30	1	2	3
10am - UMACMY MISSION TRIP @ Corpus Christ, TX						
8:30am - Outdoor 9am - Children's 10am - Worship Live 10:30am - Blessing	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	
9am - Children's 10am - 10:00am In- 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	
9am - Children's 10am - 10:00am In- 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	
9am - Children's 10am - 10:00am In- 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		<b>NEWSLETTER Input</b> 6:30pm - Alcoholics	
9am - Children's 10am - 10:00am In- 10:30am - Youth 11am - MISSION	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	