



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



## A Message from the Trustees Chair

We are finally done with the work of restoration and remodeling of the sanctuary after the catastrophic events of the winter storm last February. But there are still a few pending jobs here and there that could use some help from church members. With the pandemic still here and the uncertainty this brings, it is still too early to tell when we can all come together for a nice Fall work day at the church. So, as it was done last Spring, the Trustees have decided that we will make this a Fall work "event" (rather than a day). The Fall work event begins on October 1st and ends on November 30th. In this way, you may come in when it is convenient for you, work on an item you wish to work on and leave without having to worry too much about close contact with others. A list of items has been prepared by the Trustees, items that need a little TLC. This list has been posted to the church's web site so that you can add your name next to the item you wish to tackle. Last spring we got great participation and most of the items got corrected, it was much appreciated. We believe we will have the same enthusiastic response this Fall now that all the church buildings are accessible. God bless.

Sergio Longoria  
Trustees Chair

## Thursday Theologian

By Pastor Suzette

I recall when I was in labor with my first born. It had been many hours and I was exhausted. It felt hopeless and at times terrifying, as medical professionals moved in and out of the labor room and the number of medical person seemed to grow. I would catch snatches of conversation – none of it reassuring. The lights were so bright, the pain so intense and unrelenting. It wasn't going well.

In the midst of the swirling sensations, my plea to God for help, was answered in the 23<sup>rd</sup> Psalm. The Lord is my Shepherd, I shall not want. He makes me to lie down in green pastures. He leads me by still waters. Unbidden, the Psalm filled my mind and my soul with God's presence. I began to recite over and again in my head as those around me scrambled to figure out how to get the

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## JESUS' ROCK STAR CORNER

Submitted by Debra Longoria

Jesus Rock Stars have been learning both in-person and on zoom about Moses and how God allowed the Israelites to leave Egypt after a long battle with Pharaoh. God won and the Israelites were freed from slavery.

The children learned that God takes care of his people from their enemies, since he parted the Red Sea for them to walk on dry land to safety. He also provided manna and quail for them to eat. Later, he asked Moses to hit the rock so water would flow to show his power to the Israelites.

We learned that the Israelites complained a lot and worried for basic needs. However, the children learned that when we trust God with our problems, he will care for us. We also know how important it for us to remember what God has done in our lives and say thank you. That gives us more reason to trust him with our current problems and not worry.

We had fun with science experiments such as: parting pepper and making an ocean move (lava lamp). We poked pencils into a water filled bag and then hit the bag so water would come out. We made art out of milk and food coloring. We also learned that Miriam led a celebration to praise God for helping them escape from Egypt. We celebrated by singing and using a tambourine. We will continue with learning about the Ten Commandments and Joshua setting up a spy mission.

### Wednesday Bible Club

We have been learning about the Armor of God in Ephesians 6:10-18. The children colored the different parts of the armor and we're learning what each part represents to protect ourselves against the enemy.

Belt is truth, breastplate is righteousness and shoes are peace. We're still learning the others.

We are making a mini booklet to remind ourselves of God's love, Bible verses, reflections, stickers, poems, questions, and jokes. We have a time for our lesson, show and tell, play games, do crafts, tell jokes for fun and just be silly.

We also are working on an art project on canvas about what the children think about God. We hope to display them soon.

All are welcome to have fun. Email Amanda Theriot [amanda.theriot@icloud.com](mailto:amanda.theriot@icloud.com) for both Sunday School and Bible Club so she can send a zoom invitation to all who are interested.

We would like to say, **"THANK YOU TO CAROLYN SMITH"**.

She has taught Sunday School, Jesus Rock Starts, for 10 years!

We honored her on Sept. 5<sup>th</sup> during Sunday School with flowers and cards the children made for her. We had an angel holding, Thank You, for her to keep. The poster had our names all over it and we counted to 10 to remind of her that 10 years have gone by. We are thankful for in her service to God. It's been difficult to host Sunday School during a pandemic, but she did it consistently by providing zoom meetings for virtual learning for the children. So, thank you for all you did and still do!

Prayer for Carolyn:

Dear God,

We ask that you bless Ms. Carolyn for her 10 years of teaching Sunday School to the children, as most of us take this ministry for granted. We ask that you bless the children that she taught that are adults and close to adulthood now. Help them remember the lessons and your love to them in their lives.

We ask that you give Ms. Carolyn a peace and joy in her new and current commitments to the church and her family. Let her know that we as a church celebrate her faithfulness to you by being there for the children and families all these years. Thank you God, for Ms. Carolyn and for Mrs. Amanda who helped teach the children in Sunday School.

In Jesus' Name,

Amen.



# BE LIGHT YOUTH

## UMArmy August 2021

### BE LIGHT YOUTH

Fall fun at every turn

Sunday Oct 17th: pumpkin patch duty and Fall festival activity prep

Sunday, Oct 24th ZOOM blended YOUTH at 11:30 worship and finalize Fall festival prep

SATURDAY OCT 30th 9:30 -11AM with tacos at 8:30 set up

### November

Friday, Nov 5 - Laura Diagle Concert - reserve your spot ASAP

Sunday Nov 7th blended zoom YOUTH at 11:30am

Sunday, Nov 21 Hanging of the Greens after worship

Sunday , Nov 28 ADVENT begins

Looking ahead -

Sunday Dec 19 - Christmas party at Jozi followed by Casting Crowns Christmas concert

Friday, Jan 14th leaving after school LA FERIA TX mission TRIP - Jan 14- 17th

## ACH Fall Festival - FUNDRAISING Event for Improving PLAYGROUND SAFETY

BE LIGHT YOUTH and the ACH (A Child's Haven) Board are sponsoring a Fall Festival, Saturday, Oct 30th 9:30-11AM. This is the first time the families will gather in nearly two years. We are keeping it fun and simple. Activities include: fishing booth, treasure dive, blind cup grab,, pumpkin decorating, book nook, Super hero photo op, cake walk, book bingo, contactless trick or treat trail and more.

Families contribute \$10 to participate - all activities are free - EXCEPT the \$1 Book Bingo and the pumpkin decorating, which is donation optional. All funds gathered will be put towards improving the playground ground cover which is approaching needing attention.

YOU are needed to make it a success:

- BAKE GOODIES - individually wrapped as prizes for he cake walk
- NEW or gently used Children's books as prizes for the \$1 Book Bingo
- Sponsor OR Host a table in the contactless trick-or treat trail. All treats must be individually wrapped and set out across the table so the children can pick theirs up without touching another package. Decorate a table (think Trunk or Treat). You could dress up (or not) and sit behind the table to chat with the children and their families come through the trail. Need Ten sponsors at least.
- Help work one the other events

Contact Pastor Suzette to sign up or ask questions.

## A Child's Haven

We are so excited to back at school and to have our classrooms filled with the sounds of children. Take a peek to see what we have been up to at A Child's Haven.

Reanna Eddy, Director  
A Child's Haven Preschool  
<https://childshaven.net/>



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baby out. The pain was still quite real but so was my deep sense of peace. God is with me, God is with my baby. We are not alone.

In my hour of need, my faith training –years of faith training through the church family not seminary- came through for me. I had no idea as I went to Sunday school, worship, youth retreats, mission trips, and more that I would have a difficult labor which might end poorly. My parents invested (read: made me go) in my faith training so that I would have a bigger tool box to handle life challenges. Church is one of the very few places where we get to discuss ethics, God, Love, responsibility to neighbor, be vulnerable, be strong, and figure out what **we say** that Jesus is, as Jesus asks Peter: “Who do you say that I am?” The answer to that question will shape your faith walk and your relationship with God.

There are many choices and too little time, too little energy, too little of us to go around especially as parents/grandparents. I invite each of you to consider what/where/why faith formation matters today. Ruminates, ponder, reflect the moments in your life when you were able to use your faith to get you through a rough patch. Our children deserve that same precious tool box for whatever might come in their futures too. It will not “just happen.” It must be developed and nurtured. And just like ice cream vs broccoli, they need our help assure they get the right balance for a healthy nutrients for strong faith muscles. Good news is God is full of grace and our church is full of people who would love to help your children grow in Christ. Start over each day, claiming God’s love and teaching it to the next faithful generation who can claim in the face of fear: God is with us, we are not alone.



## 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!

# CPFUMC Calendar October 2021

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

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>26</p> <p>9am - Children's SS 10am - In-Person 8pm - Youth @</p>	<p>27</p> <p>4:15pm - Piano 7:30pm - Centering</p>	<p>28</p> <p>9:30am - Morning 10am - Bible Study 10am - HCCM 11am - Prayer Shawl</p>	<p>29</p> <p>3pm - Piano Lessons 7pm - Buckles &amp;</p>	<p>30</p> <p>4:15pm - Piano</p>	<p>1</p> <p>9am - Adult ESL 4:15pm - Piano 7:30pm - Alcoholics</p>	<p>2</p>
<p>3</p> <p>9am - Children's SS 10am - In-Person 8pm - Youth @</p>	<p>4</p> <p>4:15pm - Piano 7pm - TRUSTEES in- 7:30pm - Centering</p>	<p>5</p> <p>9:30am - Morning 10am - Bible Study 10am - HCCM 11am - Prayer Shawl 4:45pm - Piano</p>	<p>6</p> <p>3pm - Piano Lessons 7pm - Buckles &amp;</p>	<p>7</p> <p>4:15pm - Piano</p>	<p>8</p> <p>9am - Adult ESL 4:15pm - Piano 7:30pm - Alcoholics</p>	<p>9</p>
<p>10</p> <p>9am - Children's SS 10am - In-Person 8pm - Youth @</p>	<p>11</p> <p>4:15pm - Piano 7:30pm - Centering</p>	<p>12</p> <p>9:30am - Morning 10am - Bible Study 10am - HCCM 11am - Prayer Shawl 4:45pm - Piano</p>	<p>13</p> <p>3pm - Piano Lessons 7pm - Buckles &amp;</p>	<p>14</p> <p>4:15pm - Piano</p>	<p>15</p> <p>9am - Adult ESL 4:15pm - Piano 7:30pm - Alcoholics</p>	<p>16</p> <p>10am - Sanctuary -</p>
<p>17</p> <p>9am - Children's SS 10am - In-Person 3:30pm - Worship @ 8pm - Youth @</p>	<p>18</p> <p>4:15pm - Piano 6:30pm - Council 7:30pm - Centering</p>	<p>19</p> <p>9:30am - Morning 10am - Bible Study 10am - HCCM 11am - Prayer Shawl 4:45pm - Piano</p>	<p>20</p> <p>3pm - Piano Lessons 7pm - Buckles &amp;</p>	<p>21</p> <p>9:30am - Mbr Care 4:15pm - Piano</p>	<p>22</p> <p><b>NEWSLETTER Input</b> 9am - Adult ESL 4:15pm - Piano 7:30pm - Alcoholics</p>	<p>23</p> <p>2pm - MOS -</p>
<p>24</p> <p>9am - Children's SS 10am - In-Person 8pm - Youth @</p>	<p>25</p> <p>4:15pm - Piano 7:30pm - Centering</p>	<p>26</p> <p>9:30am - Morning 10am - Bible Study 10am - HCCM 11am - Prayer Shawl 4:45pm - Piano</p>	<p>27</p> <p>3pm - Piano Lessons 7pm - Buckles &amp;</p>	<p>28</p> <p>4:15pm - Piano</p>	<p>29</p> <p>9am - Adult ESL 4:15pm - Piano 7:30pm - Alcoholics</p>	<p>30</p>
<p>31</p> <p>9am - Children's SS 10am - In-Person 8pm - Youth @</p>	<p>1</p> <p>4:15pm - Piano 7pm - TRUSTEES in- 7:30pm - Centering</p>	<p>2</p> <p>9:30am - Morning 10am - Bible Study 10am - HCCM 11am - Prayer Shawl 4:45pm - Piano</p>	<p>3</p> <p>3pm - Piano Lessons 7pm - Buckles &amp;</p>	<p>4</p> <p>4:15pm - Piano</p>	<p>5</p> <p>9am - Adult ESL 4:15pm - Piano 7:30pm - Alcoholics</p>	<p>6</p>