



Cedar Park First United Methodist Church

Connections

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

Posaunenchor Returns in October – We Still Need a Little **HELP!**



Posaunenchor, a brass band from Hamm, Germany will arrive again in about 3 weeks around noon on Saturday, October 19. For those of you who remember, they were with us before for a few days in 2018. They will be here in central Texas again, leaving in the morning of Tuesday, October 22. During their time here you will have an opportunity to hear them at least twice. On Sunday they will play during both our 8:30 am and 10:45 am worship services. Additionally, they will play a concert on Sunday, October 20 at 4pm at Solea (1520 Juliette Way, Cedar Park, TX 78613).

The Posaunenchor group this year is 24 musicians and a few family members, ages 11 to early 70s. They will tour Cedar Park and out

POSAUNENCHOR continued on p. 5

A Conversation with Bruce and Barbara Bunn:

Q: When was your first day at CPFUMC and what do you remember about it?

A: Barb and her Mother visited in 2008 when we first moved here. They thought it was a very friendly church.

Q: Tell us about what drew you to CPFUMC.

A: It is in our neighborhood so we visited. After attending a large church for awhile we decided that a small church was a better fit. Also, we really love the Outdoor Sanctuary.

Q: In what city did you grow up? Where do you live now?

A: Barb was born in Omaha, Nebraska while I was born in Greenville, South Carolina. We

MEMBERS continued on p. 6

ALSO IN THIS ISSUE:

<u>A Child's Haven</u>	p. 2
<u>Church Directory Published</u>	p. 3
<u>Pumpkin Patch</u>	p. 4
<u>Trustees Report</u>	p. 4
<u>Finance Report</u>	p. 5
<u>United Women in Faith</u>	p. 5
<u>Church Contacts</u>	p. 6
<u>Items for Sale</u>	p. 7
<u>Be Light Youth</u>	p. 8
<u>Youth Midwinter Retreat</u>	p. 9
<u>Solea Holiday Craft Bazaar</u>	p. 10
<u>National Night Out</u>	p. 11
<u>This Month's Calendar</u>	p. 12

A Child's Haven Happenings

This month at A Child's Haven, we talked about kindness. Children practiced the verse: "Be kind and compassionate to one another..." The color of the month was purple, and the shape of the month was circle. These are incorporated in their everyday activities and practiced throughout the month.

We had a great turnout for our Teddy Bear Picnic. Most of our families were able to attend and enjoy a picnic lunch with their child, while connecting with other families.

Coming up in October:

Coffee, Community, and Prayer: October 2nd

Community Helpers week: Oct 7th-10th We will have a fire truck and police officer visit.

Fall Fest: October 19th

In-school Halloween celebrations: Oct 30-31st (Costume Parade on the 31st)

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



Church Directory Published

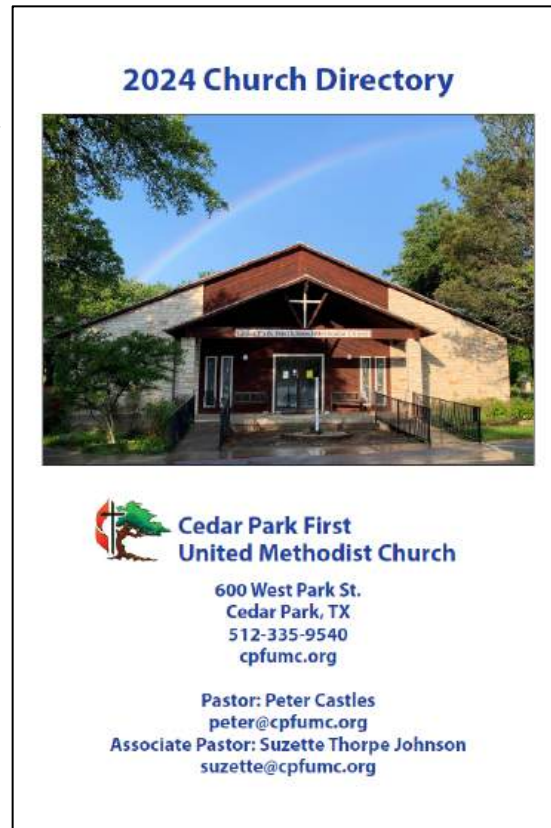
It started off as an idea to combine a number of existing documents into something useful for the congregation. Neil Howard made a proposal to the Church Council back in May to annually self-publish our own Church Directory. The idea was to combine our limited-distribution Roster, an 11-page CPFUMC Ministries brochure last edited in 2018, the Church Leadership list published annually to a limited distribution and photographs of church members into something called the Church Directory. Strangely, this idea was prompted by the song [Church Directory](#) by Jonathan Rundman.

Well, the Church Council actually approved this harebrained idea! In addition, Peter wanted to simultaneously collect information on birthdays and anniversaries for church records kept in our Servant Keeper database. Now the die was cast. We just had to assemble a team and do it!

Fortunately, God provides just what we need. It turns out that Darlene Woehner had previously taken over editing and production of our church brochure, a pictorial tri-fold we hand out to new visitors and to people at our annual pumpkin patch. In addition, Darlene had just finished subbing the entire summer for Jill Lundstrom as the editor of our monthly church newsletter, *Connections*. Darlene and her document layout skills were perfect for this Church Directory endeavor. Debra Longoria and others had produced the CPFUMC Ministries brochure back in 2018, so we grabbed the latest version of that. Peter, Anita Martin and Sue Sidney did copious updating and proofreading to bring the different parts together into a coherent and accurate whole. Neil volunteered to take photos of any willing subjects. The Membership Care & Hospitality Committee helped by contacting members who did not have their photo taken. Jane Howard created a massive fabric neutral background which we temporarily mounted on the Nursery wall. This became our *ad hoc* photography studio.

Printing and binding tools were provided by our church office with the recent addition of our brand-new Sharp BP-70C31 multifunction printer and a recently-purchased Bostitch Office No-Jam Booklet Stapler. We can now print and bind the Church Directory ourselves right in the church office.

We met in the church office in early October to print, fold and bind the 2024 Church Directory. You should have a hardcopy in your hands soon, one per family. Come to the church to pick up your copy. If for some reason you did not get your photo taken or your information is incorrect, let the church office know at office@cpfumc.org. We currently plan to update and publish the Church Directory annually to keep up with the inevitable changes.





The Pumpkins Arrived!

Click [HERE](#) to see how we unloaded 2400 pumpkins!

Click [HERE](#) to sign up to help with the pumpkin patch!

Trustees Report October

Our next meeting is October 6 from 9:40-10:35 in church office. We have had a relatively calm year--no big surprises or unusual expenses. Our preventive maintenance strategy for key utilities is paying off.

We Trustees are responsible for management of buildings, grounds, and operations. We have been blessed with a seasoned maintenance pro to be our Vice Chair (VP) of these three areas - Jorge Soto. I want to salute Jorge for his great leadership in all three areas. It is great he only lives 6 blocks from the church and has a truck and all kinds of tools. Please thank Jorge for his great work when you see him in church. He is always here when we need him?

Our growth initiative, and effort shared with the Church Council, has also made good strides under the leadership of Paul and Jessyka Gay. We are getting our messages more consistent, our FaceBook activity has had a great boost with Jessyka leading that effort, and Audrey is helping tie the Youth piece in. If you haven't noticed our 10:45 Sunday church service has more attendance. Our effort to solicit prospects and members from Solea Apartments is going along nicely--up to 11 Solea residents are attending services--and Wanda Lack and I will recruit some more.

The new Cedar Park library will open November 1. It is going to be 47,000 sq ft of beauty and functionality, with it's own park and walkway that will run right along the creek and our back property line. We are now working on a plan to open a pathway and labyrinth on our back three treed acres so we can connect with the library pathway and walk from the church to the library through the woods. "As the crow flies it is only about 6 blocks". Our new Tree and Ground fund will pay for these developments. Please consider making a small donation to our new Tree and Grounds fund. We have received \$1,500 so far and thanks to all donors.



to Point Venture on Saturday: 2 hours, 50 miles round trip.

While they are here, we plan to host them in our homes. A number of church members have already volunteered to be HOSTS. HOSTS provide a place to sleep for 3 nights and 3 meals: Sunday dinner, Monday dinner and Tuesday breakfast. **We still need 3 more HOSTS** to accommodate everyone.

HOSTS and DRIVERS both get a free BBQ dinner at the church on Saturday! Woo woo!

For all those of you who have already volunteered to be HOSTS and DRIVERS, *Vielen Dank!* Many thanks for your willingness to participate in this cultural exchange event. **We will have a short meeting at noon on Sunday, October 13 in the Sanctuary for all volunteers.** During this meeting, we will go over guest/host assignments, the entire schedule for the Posaunenchor visit, maps of travel routes and transportation logistics. There will be an opportunity to have any and all of your questions answered.

This will be a wonderful opportunity for a cultural exchange. Language is not an issue since they all speak some English, most very well. **If you are willing and able to help by providing a place to sleep for two or three people, or transport in your vehicle on Saturday, October 19, won't you please sign up on the sheets on the table in the narthex?**

Contact Neil Howard if you have any questions or want to help out:
(nhowardtx1@gmail.com) 512-720-1990.

Church Finance Report

The Church had a good month financially in August. Donations for the month were in line with what we need and we had fairly substantial one-time income. Expenses were close to our budgeted estimates, and as a result we had net income of almost \$4500 for the month. However, we are still running a deficit for the year as shown below. This deficit is not entirely unusual for the Church at this time of the year. The Church continues to have adequate reserves to meet our financial obligations despite our current year-to-date deficit.

Financial status through August 31, 2024

Total Income:	\$ 190,961.90
Total expenses:	<u>\$ 196,653.16</u>
Net Income/deficit:	\$ (5,691.26)



United
Women
in Faith

United Women of Faith meets quarterly.
Please join us at 9:30am on November 9.

MEMBERS continued from p. 1

both moved around a lot but went to high school in Big Spring, Texas.

Q: What church did you come to CPFUMC from?

A . Bethany United Methodist in Austin.

Q: Tell us about your family.

A: Barb and I have been married a long time. We have two children and three grandchildren here in Austin. My father (Bruce) was an Air Force Officer so we lived in many places. Barb's father was in Chamber of Commerce management so moved frequently also.



Q: Do you have any pets?

A: Not anymore. We were blessed with a wonderful dog for many years and have been owned by several cats.

Q: What do you like to do in your spare time? Or what takes up a lot of your time?

A: We are both retired and enjoy volunteering. We also enjoy gardening and spending time with the grandkids.

Q: Do you have a particular hobby? Is there one you want to learn?

A: We enjoy walking daily, reading and occasionally traveling.

Q: What's your favorite restaurant or favorite meal?

A: We mostly eat at home but enjoy bringing supper home sometimes. Smokey Mo's is perhaps our favorite.

Q: Where is your favorite vacation locale?

A: We enjoy visiting family in Colorado. We also stay in cabins on the Llano River.

Q: I'd rather do anything besides

A: Hmmm, take out the trash, other household chores? We're actually fine with most everything.

Q: Tell us something we might not know about you.

A: Since we've been married we have lived in 14 different places! My career with Texas State Parks took us all over the state. Barb, being a teacher, was able to teach everywhere we went.

Church Contacts

Find us online at 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

Trustees Board Chair Brad Lienhart

Music Director/Pianist Jodi Blount

Newsletter Editor Jill Lundstrom

peter@cpfumc.org

suzette@cpfumc.org

lienhartb@yahoo.com

jodi_blount@hotmail.com

lund121@me.com

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

Surplus Equipment for Sale

The church has a number of surplus equipment items for sale. Click on the link under the pictures for more detailed information. Church friends and members get a discount off the listed price.

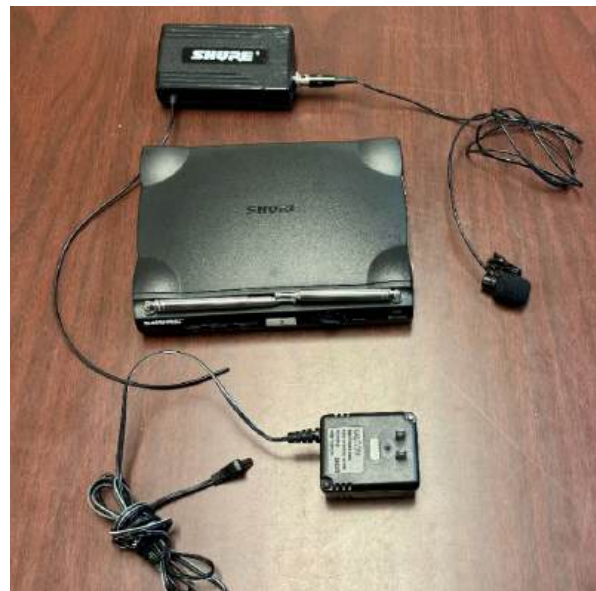
Contact Neil Howard. nhowardtx1@gmail.com if you are interested in any of these surplus equipment items.



[TP-Link 8-Port Gigabit, 4-Port PoE Switch model TL-SG108PE, \\$25](#)



[TP-Link 8-Port Gigabit Switch model TL-SG108, \\$10](#)



[Shure Wireless Lavalier Microphone System, \\$55](#)

BE LIGHT YOUTH

– so much to join in and delight that God is Good –
CHECK IT OUT:

FALL FESTIVAL

Saturday, October 19 (BEFORE our German guests arrive)

10-noon

Free festival with games, prizes, face painting, and TRUNK or TREAT

We need help with:

- Small prizes for the games
- Yummy baked goodies- individual sized for the *PUMPKIN PROMENADE*
- And decorating your car as a **trick or treat** station and handing out candy to the little ones.
- Please sign up at church so we know we can count on you. Questions – solutions?
Contact Pastor Suzette (suzette@cpfumc.org)

BE LIGHT YOUTH offered On the Road Communion to our church family members who can't always get to worship on Sunday. Both Marie and Clara delighted in the embrace of God's grace.

Schedule:

Sun 10/6 pumpkin patch

Sun 10/13 pumpkin patch and ALMOST LOCK-IN noon-8PM

Sun 10/20 German cultural exchange the YOUTH are hosting the German Youth for an afternoon of activities

Sun 10/27 Party at the Patch

NOVEMBER

SATURDAY 11/2 Solea Christmas Craft Sale

11/3 Fall Back and PUMPKIN CHUCKING – district-wide event hurling pumpkins off the top of the Austin1st UMC 4:30-7PM

Looking ahead – White Christmas musical in Georgetown; Christmas Bazaar at Solea, Hanging of the Greens.





Unplug from the busyness of life and gather with friends old and new at the 2025 Youth MidWinter Retreat this January. Find space away from your phone to reset, relax, and connect with God and each other through worship. Youth and adult volunteers from across central Texas will spend Friday night through Sunday morning enjoying the beautiful Texas Hill Country at Highland Lakes Camp in Spicewood as we gather for an awesome weekend full of worship, fellowship, and fun.

What: Youth MidWinter Retreat

When: Friday, January 17 (7 pm) – January 19 (10:15 am)

Where: Highland Lakes Camp (5902 Pace Bend Rd N, Spicewood, TX 78669)

Cost: \$175/person

Deadline: December 20

[Adult registration](#)

[Youth registration](#)

Please note: You MUST complete a separate Highland Lakes Camp Release Form linked on the last page of each registration.

Questions? Feel free to reach out to Ryan Jenson: ryan@oakhillumc.org

Notes:

- As we seek to draw closer to God and one another, **youth are not permitted to bring their phones to MidWinter this year.** Should an emergency arise, youth at camp can contact their families and be contacted by their families through their individual youth directors.
- A limited number of partial scholarships are available as needed. Please request a scholarship form through your youth director.
- All adults attending MidWinter must be Safe Gatherings certified.
- Adult to youth ratio requirement by church is 1:8 with a minimum of 2 adults per church group.

SOLEA HOLIDAY
CRAFT
Bazaar+

HANDMADE & MORE

FREE FRIENDSHIP BRACELET 4-18 YRS

FREE COFFEE BAR & POPCORN

SILENT AUCTION FUNDRAISER

JEWELRY • STAINED GLASS • CROCHET

GREETING CARDS • TEXTILES

HOME DECOR • BAKED GOODS • CAKE

FACE PAINTING • PURSES • APRONS

SHAKLEE • PAMPERED CHEF • MARY KAY

GREETING CARDS • GOURDCRAFT

HANDMADE PET ITEMS • EMBROIDERY

SATURDAY
NOVEMBER 2, 2024
9AM - 2PM

SOLEA CLUBHOUSE
1520 JULIETTE WAY
CEDAR PARK, TX 78613

FACEBOOK.COM/GROUPS/
CRAFTERSATSOLEACEDARPARK



A great night it was. National Night Out brought many of our neighbors and church members together. It was a time to get to know each other.



We met new friends and had snow cones and corn dogs, which were generously donated by H-E-B.



We met many first responders. The children were able to look inside the police cars and fire truck. What a thrill for any age!

The most fun came from the children playing in the foam. Watching was almost as exciting.



And, we even sold a few pumpkins!

Many thanks to our First Responders for their support and help throughout the year.



Thank you to each of you who assisted with this event!

CPFUMC Calendar October 2024

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

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
29	30	1	2	3	4	5
2024 Pumpkin Patch						
8:30am - In-Person	4:30pm - Stephanie Piano	9:30am - Morning Prayer 10am - Bible Study 10am - HCCM 11am - Prayer Shawl 5pm - National Night Out	8:30am - Red Shirts 5:30pm - Stephanie Piano	10am - Sanctuary Prep 4:30pm - Stephanie Piano	8:45am - Men's Coffee 7:30pm - AA Group @	
9:45am - SS in-person &	7:30pm - Centering					
10:45am - In-Person						
10:45am - Livestream						
12pm - Youth						
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
2024 Pumpkin Patch						
8:30am - In-Person	4:30pm - Stephanie Piano	9:30am - Morning Prayer 10am - Bible Study 10am - HCCM 7:30pm - AA Men's Group	8:30am - Red Shirts @ 5:30pm - Stephanie Piano	10am - Sanctuary Prep 4:30pm - Stephanie Piano	8:45am - Men's Coffee 7:30pm - AA Group @	9am - PEO Meeting @
9:40am - Trustee's	7:30pm - Centering					
9:45am - SS in-person &						
10:45am - In-Person						
10:45am - Livestream						
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
2024 Pumpkin Patch						
8:30am - In-Person	4:30pm - Stephanie Piano	9:30am - Morning Prayer 10am - Bible Study 10am - HCCM 5:30pm - Prayer Shawl 7:30pm - AA Men's Group	8:30am - Red Shirts @ 10:30am - Mbrshp, Care 5:30pm - Stephanie Piano	10am - Sanctuary Prep 4:30pm - Stephanie Piano	8:45am - Men's Coffee 7:30pm - AA Group @	Posaunenchor Visit 2024
9:45am - SS in-person &	7:30pm - Centering					
10:45am - In-Person						
10:45am - Livestream						
12pm - Posaunenchor						
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
2024 Pumpkin Patch						
Posaunenchor Visit 2024 @ Cedar Park First United Methodist Church, 600 W Park						
8:30am - In-Person	4:30pm - Stephanie Piano	9:30am - Morning Prayer 10am - Bible Study 10am - HCCM 7:30pm - AA Men's Group	8:30am - Red Shirts 5:30pm - Stephanie Piano	10am - Sanctuary Prep 4:30pm - Stephanie Piano	NEWSLETTER Input Due 8:45am - Men's Coffee 7:30pm - AA Group @	
9:45am - SS in-person &	7:30pm - Centering					
10:45am - In-Person						
10:45am - Livestream						
27	28	29	30	31	1	2
2024 Pumpkin Patch						
8:30am - In-Person	4:30pm - Stephanie Piano	9:30am - Morning Prayer 10am - Bible Study 10am - HCCM 7:30pm - AA Men's Group	5:30pm - Stephanie Piano	10am - Sanctuary Prep 4:30pm - Stephanie Piano	8:45am - Men's Coffee 7:30pm - AA Group @	9:30am - United Women
9:45am - SS in-person &	7:30pm - Centering					
10:45am - In-Person						
10:45am - Livestream						
12pm - Youth						