



June 2025

Cedar Park First United Methodist Church

# Connections

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



June 14th and July 19th  
9 am - 1 pm  
Cedar Park FUMC  
600 West Park Street Cedar Park

Register at  
[cpfumc.org](http://cpfumc.org)  
Children entering K through 5th grade

## ALSO IN THIS ISSUE:

<u>United Women of Faith</u>	<u>p. 2</u>
<u>Summer Reading Challenge</u>	<u>p. 3</u>
<u>Website Upgrades</u>	<u>p. 4</u>
<u>Church Contacts</u>	<u>p. 7</u>
<u>This Month's Calendar</u>	<u>p. 8</u>

## ***A Conversation with Jim and Ruth West:***

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

A: I was driving on West Park Street coming home from golfing one day in 2010 when I saw several pumpkins in a yard near the street. I turned into the driveway, stopped the car and got out. I was approached by a tall man who asked if I wanted to buy pumpkins. I said "no", then I asked him who is the preacher here now? He answered, "I am and then introduced himself and Cilla Gregory". I told Peter I used to come to CPFUMC occasionally but now I attend services at FUMC in Leander. He suggested I go to services in Leander 2-3 times and then come here 2-3 times and see which church I preferred. Ruth and I did just that and decided CPFUMC was best for us and by January or February 2011 we joined the church.

Q: Tell us about what drew you to CPFUMC.

A: Smaller church, with friendly congregation, and nearer to our home.

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

A: Jim was born in a small community named Red River near Ft. Mill, South Carolina and Ruth was born in Clay, Kentucky. Jim grew up in the

CONVERSATION continued on p. 6



United  
Women  
in Faith

The next UWF quarterly meeting is **Saturday, August 2nd at 9:30 am** at **La Madeleine Lakeline**. Please join us for a time of fellowship and planning for our mission projects and Advent Brunch fundraiser.

We have two wonderful programs we are supporting that are consistent with our mission to be in loving outreach to women, children and youth:

- Yesterday's Gone is the transitional housing and support program for women in our area who have suffered trauma or abuse.
- Teen moms at Head Start, the daycare program for ages birth through five for families meeting the federal low-income guidelines.

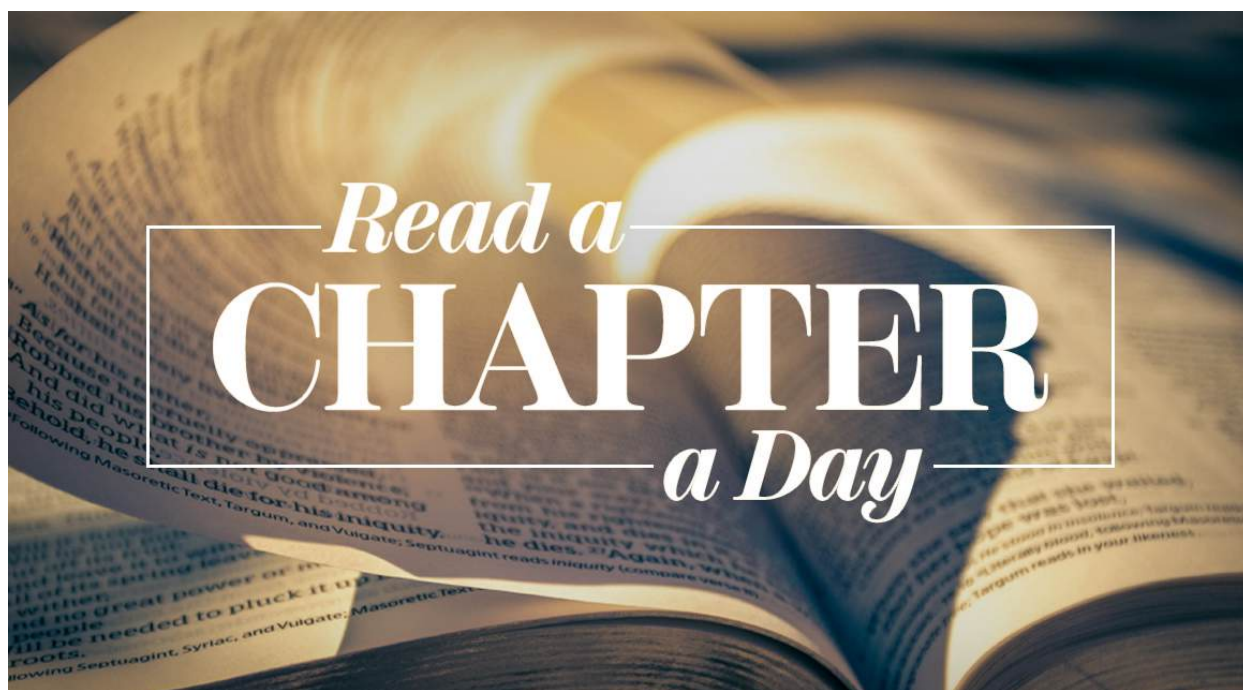
We would love to see you on August 2nd when we gather in fellowship as women of the church to support these important ministries in our community.



#### **UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH**

**Mission:** We seek to connect and nurture women through Christian spiritual formation, leadership development, creative fellowship and education so that they can inspire, influence and impact local and global communities.

**Vision:** We are a powerful, fearless force driven by God's love and united in sisterhood. With a focus on women, children and youth, we act for justice and transform communities.



## **TAKE THE CHALLENGE: READ A CHAPTER A DAY JUNE 9-JULY 26**

Join hundreds of people for a summer reading challenge! Registration is free and will provide you with opportunities to connect with other UMC folks from around the world.

### **SIGN UP TODAY!**

Visit <https://www.UMCDiscipleship.org/articles/read-a-chapter-a-day-summer-2025-challenge>

This reading challenge will guide participants through Romans, 1 Corinthians, and 2 Corinthians, providing a strong foundation in Christian theology, practical church life, and discipleship. The plan is designed for everyone—both new and mature believers—who want to engage with scripture daily. A weekly Bible study component offers deeper reflection and group discussions.

Each day, you will receive an email with the chapter of the day, a reflection question from a theologian, and encouragement for your journey. This is a powerful opportunity to immerse yourself in scripture and grow in faith alongside thousands of others worldwide.

Here's the schedule for reading:

June 9–June 24: Romans 1–16

June 25: Reflection on Romans

June 26–July 11: 1 Corinthians 1–16

July 12: Reflection on 1 Corinthians

July 13–July 25: 2 Corinthians 1–13

July 26: Reflection on 2 Corinthians

(Reflection days allow you to pause, pray, and revisit key themes from the passages.)

Reading the Bible is a transformative spiritual practice. Whether you're a seasoned daily reader or just starting, this is an opportunity to grow in faith, reflect on God's word, and engage with a community of believers. Let's take this journey together. Sign up today and be part of this powerful summer challenge!



## Website Upgrade In Progress

Since March we have been upgrading the church website. The upgrade was required because our website theme page editing plug-in was substantially changed by its authors. We have farmed out the initial work of changing 84 pages to the theme support staff (Webinane). Our plan is to have Webinane complete the update, upload it to a Staging Site where we (Neil and Todd) will perform final edits prior to release to production.

Here is our current website home page using the Deeds v9.5 theme:

The screenshot shows the website for Cedar Park First United Methodist Church. The browser address bar displays <https://cpfumc.org>. The navigation menu includes links for Home, What's Available For..., When's the Next..., How Do I..., Tell Me About..., and Donate.

The main header features the church's logo on the left, which includes a cross and a tree, and the text "Cedar Park First United Methodist Church" in the center. To the right of the logo is the tagline: "A Spiritual Oasis Committed to Christ Committed to Peace Committed to Service".

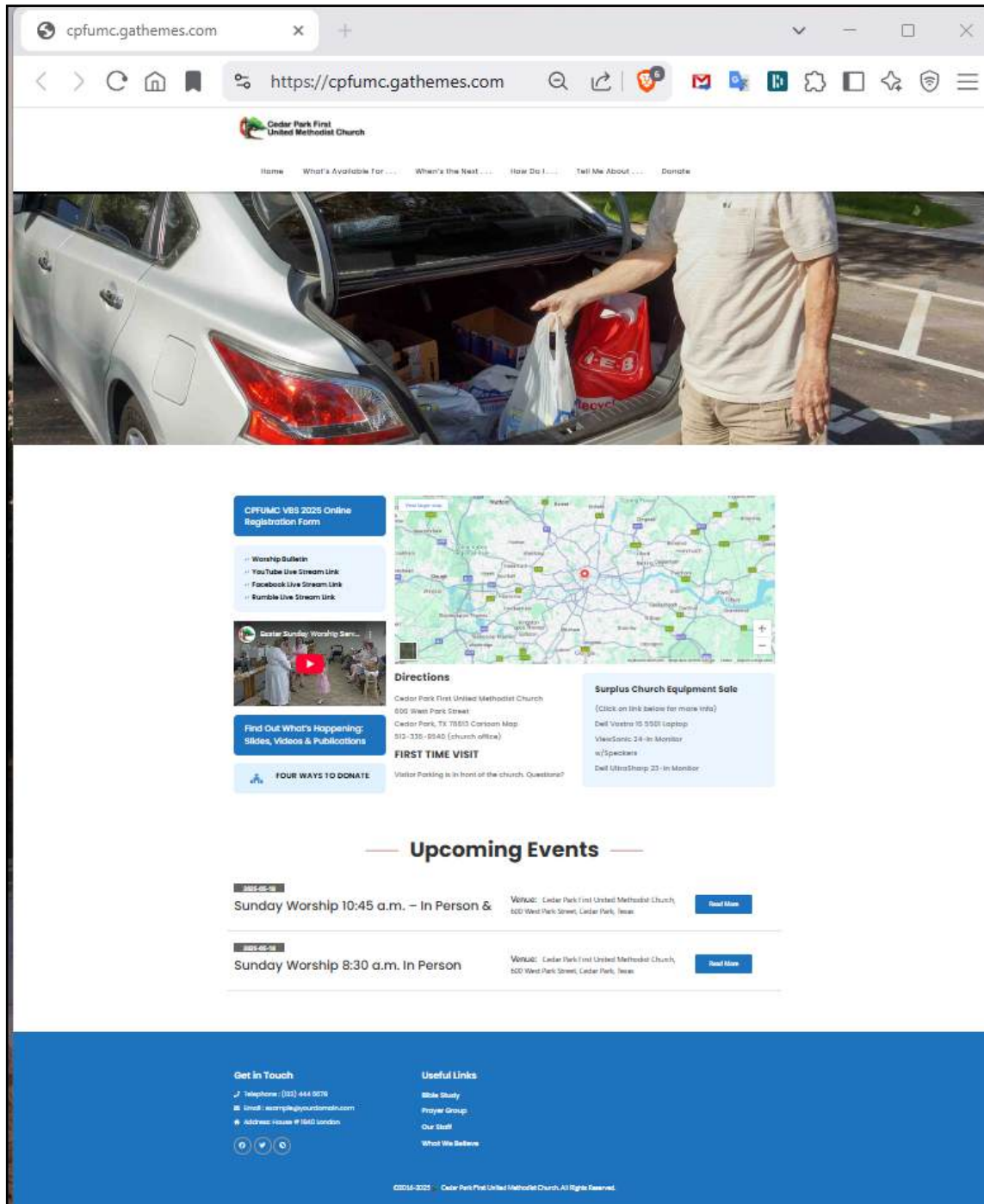
Below the header is a large banner image of a woman wearing a straw hat and sunglasses, standing on a balcony overlooking a vast, arid landscape under a clear sky.

The main content area is divided into several sections:

- CPFUMC VBS 2025 Online Registration Form**: A blue button with white text.
- Worship Bulletin**: A yellow button with black text, containing links for "YouTube Live Stream Link", "Facebook Live Stream Link", and "Rumble Live Stream Link".
- Sunday 10:45 am Worship Se...**: A video player showing a church service with a woman in a white robe.
- Find Out What's Happening: Slides, Videos & Publications**: A blue button with white text.
- FOUR WAYS TO DONATE**: A light blue button with a small icon and white text.
- Map**: A Google Map showing the church's location at 600 W Park St. The map includes labels for "Texas Farmers' Market at Bell", "Cedar Park Public Library", and "Titan Moon Buttercup".
- Directions**: Text providing the church's address (600 West Park Street, Cedar Park, TX 78613), phone number (512-335-9540), and a note that visitor parking is in front of the church.
- Upcoming Events**: A section titled "CALENDAR" showing two events for May 25, 2025: "SUNDAY WORSHIP 8:30 A.M...." and "SUNDAY WORSHIP 10:45 A.M....". Both events include the time, a brief description, and the church's address.
- Surplus Church Equipment Sale**: A light blue box with a small icon and text: "Surplus Church Equipment Sale (Click on link below for more info) ViewSonic 24-in Monitor w/Speakers Dell UltraSharp 23-in Monitor".

WEBSITE cont. from p. 4

Here is a preview of how it looks now during conversion to Deeds v10.4:



We will also be using this time during the upgrade to update any website pages that need updating. If you are responsible for the data on any cpfumc.org web page (i.e. Suzette, Amanda, Bob Bowker, Jodi, Kevin, Peter, Anita, Neil, Todd, David Gibbs), please review your pages and provide a markup (electronic or hardcopy) to Neil and Todd.

CONVERSATION cont. from p. 1

military, joining the US Army in 1948 at age 16 by lying about my age. Jim served 25 years, retiring in 1973. We moved to Austin in 1973 and then moved to Cedar Park in 1992.



Q: What church did you come to CPFUMC from?

A: FUMC in Austin, and then St. Mark's in Austin.

Q: Tell us about your family.

A: In August 1950 I was transferred from the Military Police (MP) Battalion in Fort Knox to the Airborne MP Company, Camp Breckinridge, KY. One day while on assigned duty as a main gate guard, I waved an incoming car loaded with post employees into the base. I looked at the male driver and the front seat female passenger. I asked my fellow gate guard if he saw the pretty gal passenger. Long story short, it was Ruth Springfield, a civilian personnel office clerk. Weeks passed without seeing her again until one evening three buddies and I went to a dance hall located about 10 miles from camp. I immediately saw a young girl I knew named Loretta and next to her was Ruth. Everyone started to dance except Ruth. I asked if she wanted to dance and she said "No." I didn't want to leave her alone so I introduced myself. The music was loud and the room was full of cigarette smoke so I asked her outside for some fresh air. She did...and it was all over for us...from that moment on. Within a week we started dating and married later that year, November 3, 1951.

We have two daughters Sara A. West and Jayne E. West (Gonzalez). We also have a granddaughter Ashley Narup and grandson Dustin Tune, great granddaughter Kayla Narup and great grandson Blake Narup of Leander, TX.

CONVERSATION cont. on p. 7

CONVERSATION cont. from p. 6

Q: Do you have any pets?

A: No. We owned several Welsh Corgi's in the past. We are too old to own pets, especially young pups.

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

A: At ages 94 and 95 this year Ruth and I try to survive another day. We manage to keep the house in order with a little help from several friends.

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

A: I played golf about three times a week until the dreaded COVID struck several years ago. The one-time Ruth went golfing with me I shot a hole in one on the 5th hole at Point Venture golf course. I have played three times this year with Steve Howard who is one of my playing partners.

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

A: We enjoy meals at Hunan Ranch, Cheddar's, Long John Silvers and any good steak house.

Q: Where is your favorite vacation locale?

A: We enjoy the Riverwalk, San Antonio and Corpus Christi Beach. We stopped driving long distances several years ago. Jayne and our grandson Dustin live in San Antonio so that's our favorite area now days.

Q: I'd rather do anything besides

A: Having to keep my swimming pool clean year-round when it's seldomly used by family members.

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

A: I watch Sunday church services with Dr. Charles Stanley at 10:00 AM, then service with Joel Osteen at 10:30 AM, and CPFUMC services with Peter and Suzette by zooming at 10:45 AM. Video is a wonderful tool. We really miss attending CPFUMC services in person but our physical conditions no longer allow us this privilege.

## 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

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



# CPFUMC Calendar June 2025

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

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 8:30am - In-Person 9:45am - SS in-person & 10:45am - In-Person 10:45am - Livestream 12pm - Staff-Parish 12pm - Youth	2 2pm - Stephanie Plano 4:30pm - Stephanie Plano 7:30pm - Centering	3 9:30am - Morning Prayer 10am - Bible Study 10am - HCCM 11am - Prayer Shawl 7:30pm - AA Men's Group	4 8:30am - Red Shirts 7:30pm - Big Book Study	5 9pm - Cleaning Crew @ The whole church gets 10am - Sanctuary Prep 8:45am - Men's Coffee 4pm - Stephanie Plano 7:30pm - AA Group @	6	7
8 8:30am - In-Person 9:45am - SS in-person & 10:45am - In-Person 10:45am - Livestream 12pm - Youth 7:30pm - NA Group	9 7:30pm - Centering	10 9:30am - Morning Prayer 10am - Bible Study 10am - HCCM 7:30pm - AA Men's Group	11 8:30am - Red Shirts @ 7:30pm - Big Book Study	12 9pm - Cleaning Crew @ The whole church gets 10am - Sanctuary Prep 8:45am - Men's Coffee 4pm - Stephanie Plano 7:30pm - AA Group @	13	14 9am - VBS @ Sanctuary
15 8:30am - In-Person 9:45am - SS in-person & 10:45am - In-Person 10:45am - Livestream 12pm - Youth 7:30pm - NA Group	16 2:30pm - Stephanie's 7:30pm - Centering	17 9:30am - Morning Prayer 10am - Bible Study 10am - HCCM 5:30pm - Prayer Shawl 7:30pm - AA Men's Group	18 8:30am - Red Shirts @ 10:30am - Mbrshp, Care 7:30pm - Big Book Study	19 9pm - Cleaning Crew @ The whole church gets 10am - Sanctuary Prep 3:30pm - Stephanie's 8:45am - Men's Coffee 4pm - Stephanie Plano 7:30pm - AA Group @	20	21
22 8:30am - In-Person 9:45am - SS in-person & 10:45am - In-Person 10:45am - Livestream 12pm - Church Council 12pm - Youth	23 2:30pm - Stephanie's 7:30pm - Centering	24 9:30am - Morning Prayer 10am - Bible Study 10am - HCCM 7:30pm - AA Men's Group	25 8:30am - Red Shirts 7:30pm - Big Book Study	26 9pm - Cleaning Crew @ The whole church gets 10am - Sanctuary Prep 3:30pm - Stephanie's 8:45am - Men's Coffee 4pm - Stephanie Plano 7:30pm - AA Group @	27	28
29 8:30am - In-Person 9:45am - SS in-person & 10:45am - In-Person 10:45am - Livestream 12pm - Youth 7:30pm - NA Group	30 2:30pm - Stephanie's 7:30pm - Centering	1 9:30am - Morning Prayer 10am - Bible Study 10am - HCCM 11am - Prayer Shawl 7:30pm - AA Men's Group	2 8:30am - Red Shirts 7:30pm - Big Book Study	3 9pm - Cleaning Crew @ The whole church gets 10am - Sanctuary Prep 3:30pm - Stephanie's 8:45am - Men's Coffee 4pm - Stephanie Plano 7:30pm - AA Group @	4	5