MEET & GREET
Tuesday, June 6th
5:30-6:30 p.m.

The Central District Committee of Ordained Ministry (dCOM) would like to invite anyone exploring the idea of starting the candidacy process in the United Methodist Church to an informal gathering on Tuesday, June 6th (5:30-6:30 PM) at the Central District Office (1512 Lake Air Dr., Suite 112, Waco) to “Meet & Greet” each other.

You will have an opportunity to meet some members of the committee and ask many questions. If you plan to attend, please call or email Cathy Moore at the District Office (254-776-8740 or cathymoore@ctcumc.org).

You Are Invited To A
Retirement Reception
Honoring
Rev. Danny Niedecken

Sunday, June 4, 2017
First United Methodist Church, Mexia
Fellowship Hall
3:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m.
CENTRAL DISTRICT:
Faye Robbins, daughter of Thomas Q. Robbins (Lakeside) Health issues
Cindy Redmond, wife of Michael Redmond (Kerens/Pleasant Grove)
Paul Porter and wife, Suzanne Porter
Tegan Shannon, granddaughter of Bill Manney (Eureka/Richland)
Billy Mack Patteson (Retired)
Edna Davis, wife of Jerden Davis (Retired)
Don Elrod (Retired)
Cathy Wood, wife of Tom Wood (Itasca)
Danny Niedecken (Mexia FUMC) and family

NORTH DISTRICT:
Pat Noe (WC Wesley Foundation) and family
Cheryl Venter (Saginaw Staff)
Connie Apple, wife of Ken Apple (Calvary)
John Johnson (Retired)
Mike Redd (Benbrook/Bethel)
Jana Wear (Dido)

Family of Frances Zellers (surviving spouse of Lawrence Zellers) She was currently living in Mississippi. Memorials are asked to be made to UMCOR or Samaritan’s Purse.

SOUTH DISTRICT:
Barbara Howard, wife of Clifton Howard (District Superintendent’s wife)
Dr. Austin Ruiz, father-in-law of Ryan Kiblenger (Ext. Ministry) undergoing chemo treatments
Sherry Coons, mother-in-law of Gary White (Foundation) Undergoing chemo treatments
Charles McClure (Retired and family on the death of his foster son, Norman Hale)
Jannette Miller (Temple FUMC) and family on the death of her mother, Barbara Messina.

CONFERENCE OFFICE
Shawn-Marie Riley (CTCSC Staff) knee replacement surgery
Gary Lindley (CTCSC)

EAST DISTRICT:
John McKellar (White’s Chapel) knee replacement surgery

Congrats to Liz & Don Scott (Perry) on the birth of their grandson, Samuel Jordan Surley, born May 15th at 4:57 a.m., weighing 7 lb. 3 oz.

CENTRAL DISTRICT CALENDAR

May 21 District Conference - 4:00 pm
May 21 Superintendent Committee Mtg. - 5:30pm
May 29 District Office Closed - Memorial Day
June 6 Meet & Greet with DCOM
June 11-14 Annual Conference - Mansfield FUMC
June 16-24 District CTCYM Mission Trip
Sept. 16 Small Church Summit - Stephenville
Oct. 6-7 Engage: Transforming Missions

Senior pastors are invited to the Growing My Church Workshop with Rev. Mike Ramsdell
Monday, May 22nd
9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. at Arborlawn UMC
(5001 Briarhaven, Fort Worth)

There will be a light breakfast served with lunch on your own. Register here!
The AC17 Preliminary Report is ready. AC17 members are encouraged to access and read the 2017 Annual Conference Preliminary Report prior to making the trip to Mansfield FUMC for the June 11-14 meeting.

Please register for Annual Conference 2017. All voting members of the 2017 CTC Annual Conference are requested to register for the June 11-14 meeting in Mansfield as soon as possible. Voting members consist of clergy (active and retired) with full or limited voting rights and the lay members of the conference elected by their church’s charge conference, district conference or by virtue of their conference office. Visitors are welcome but do not need to register.

Clergy Request for Excused Absence from AC17 form is available. Any clergy who cannot attend Annual Conference 2017 - all or a portion of the conference must complete a Request for Excused Absence form and submit it to the Conference Secretary as soon as possible. That form is available at www.ctcumc.org (AC17 News & Information).

AC17 childcare registration form and details are now available. Visit ctcumc.org/ac17-childcareform if you are attending the Central Texas Annual Conference meeting and need childcare. Care is offered from 7:30 a.m. to 5:50 p.m. Monday – Wednesday (June 12-14) for children ages six months to 12 years. The cost is $20 per child, per day, plus a non-refundable registration fee of $20 per child. The completed form and registration fee are due by May 26. More details are available at ctcumc.org/ac17-childcareform. Please send an email to mavishowell@ctcumc.org with questions.

The UMW will be having their luncheon on Tuesday, June 13th at Walnut Creek Country Club during the lunch break. The cost for this is $20.00 and will be a sit down meal, which will include a salad, entrée, sides, dessert and beverage. If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Lynne Grandstaff at 214-738-7301. To register, please go to www.ctcumw.org (Event Registration).

Central Texas HealthFlex participants attending AC17 in Mansfield have the opportunity to have their wellness screening done at Mansfield FUMC.

AC17 Hotel Information - The Central Texas Conference has partnered with four hotels close to First Methodist Mansfield – the host church of the 2017 Annual Conference meeting. While every effort was made to secure as many rooms as possible, the blocks are limited and will fill quickly. Visit ctcumc.org/ac17-hotels for a listing of and contact information for the AC17 hotels. - See more at: http://www.ctcumc.org/ac17-newsinfo
Registration is now open for this year’s local pastor licensing school!
July 28-30 & August 6-10

All certified candidates, regardless of their track, are required to attend licensing school within one year of certification. This year’s school will be held at Still Water lodge in Glen Rose, TX. The dates are July 28-30 AND August 6-10, you must attend all days all sessions. The cost is $550 ($700 for out of conference participants), you must pay a $150 deposit to register.

Please contact Kathy Ezell (817-945-6574) for questions or additional information.

https://ctc-reg.brtapp.com/2017LocalPastorsLicensingSchool

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

PIANIST NEEDED
Hubbard FUMC is in search of a pianist. It will require playing each Sunday at Mount Calm UMC at 9:30 a.m. and at Hubbard FUMC at 10:50 a.m. It would also require attendance at choir practice on Wednesday evenings with the Hubbard choir. If interested, please contact Bob Rainey at 254-576-2313.

PRESCHOOL DIRECTOR
Austin Avenue is in search of a Director for their new preschool program, Austin Avenue Preschool (5 day program). It is recommended that applicants have some college course work in Child Development, a Bachelor’s Degree in education or closely related field is preferred. Previous experience in a licensed Preschool and ability to meet Texas DFPS Director Qualifications is required. To apply, please submit cover letter, resume, a brief statement of how your Christian faith impacts your daily life, and at least two reference letters to our Director of Children’s Ministries, Christi Goldstein email: cgoldstein@austinavenueumc.org or bring them to the church office at 1300 Austin Avenue, Waco, TX 76701. Applications will be reviewed by the Director and the Austin Avenue Preschool Board. Interviews will then be scheduled with the Board.

Perry United Methodist Church
193 CR 127, Riesel, TX
Heritage/Homecoming
145th Anniversary Sunday, June 11, 2017

This year we will honor the Music of Perry United Methodist Church

Location: Perry UMC
193 CR 127, Riesel, TX
Time: 10:30 AM
Lunch: BBQ beef and all the fixings after church (by Uncle Dan’s)

Plan on attending this year and reminisce with members you haven’t seen in a long time. We will enjoy a BBQ lunch under the Tabernacle after church. If you are unable to attend this year, plan on attending in the future years. Heritage Sunday is always the second Sunday in June. Hope to see you this year. Only 5 years to the 150th Anniversary on June 12, 2022!
CENTRAL DISTRICT COURSES OFFERED:
July 29th (1pm-5pm) and August 5th (10am-4pm) - FUMC Mexia
Life Together in the United Methodist Connection (United Methodist Polity)
Teacher: Larry Ketcham        Class Fee:  $ 20.00

August 19th (9am-4pm) and August 20th (2pm-5pm) - Line Street UMC, Hillsboro, TX
Lay Pastoral Care Giving
Teacher: Brenda Speer          Class Fee:  $ 20.00

For further information or to register for either course, please contact:
Larry Ketcham (email: lketcham@digitex.net or phone: 817-357-0244)

SOUTH DISTRICT COURSES OFFERED:
Two LSM courses will be offered on the first weekend in June at First UMC in Temple, TX.

The BASIC course, which is foundational for all LSM courses will be led by Bill Johnson, LSM co-director of the South District. It will meet from 9:00am to 4:30pm on June 3, 2017, and from 2:00pm to 5:00pm on Sunday, June 4, 2017.

The advance Lay Servant course LEADING BIBLE STUDY will be moderated by Barbara Foster. This course will meet from 8:30am to 5:00pm on Saturday and 2:30pm to 4:30pm on Sunday.

Anyone may attend an LSM course, regardless of church affiliation, but UMC members who seek certification must have had the BASIC course.

For further information or to register for either course, please contact:
Bill Johnson (email: billjohnson@embarqmail.com) or
Barbara Foster (email: bfoster2015@yahoo.com or phone: 214-755-0749).
CENTRAL DISTRICT’S VACATION BIBLE SCHOOLS & SUMMER CAMPS

Austin Avenue UMC
VBS - Aug. 12th (9AM-Noon)
Cultural Music Camp
July 31-Aug. 4 (8AM-4PM)

Central UMC
July 31-Aug. 4 (All day camp)
“Camp Central”

China Spring UMC
June 25-June 28 (6PM-8PM)
“Camping Out - Getting S’more of Jesus”

Clifton FUMC
June 26-June 29 (6PM-8:30PM)
“Hero Central”

Corsicana FUMC
VBS - July 10-13
“Galactic Blast”
Art Camp - June 12-14

Groesbeck FUMC
June 26-30 (9AM-Noon)
“Hero Central”

Hillsboro FUMC
July 30-Aug. 2 (5:30PM-8:30PM)
“Gadgets & Gizmos Uniquely Wired. Wonderfully Made”

Kerens FUMC
June 19-22 (9am - Noon)
“Here Central”

Lorena UMC
July 9-13 (6:30PM-8:30PM)
“Hero Central”

Mart FUMC
July 23-27 (5:30PM-8:30PM)
“Maker Fun Factory: Created By God, Built for a Purpose”

Meridian FUMC
July 10-July 13 (9AM-Noon)
“Hero Central”

Mexia FUMC
June 26-30 (8:30AM-11:30AM)
“Hero Central”
July 2 - Praise at the Pool

Waco FUMC
July 9-13 (6PM-8:30PM)
“Maker Fun Factory: Created By God, Built for a Purpose”

Woodway FUMC
June 25-28 (6PM-8:15PM)
“Cave Quest”

If you would like to include your church in the VBS Listing, please send your information to the District Office.
**ENGAGE**

**Transforming Missions**

With Guest Speaker

**TOM BASSFORD**

**October 6-7, 2017**

**FUMC Temple**

**Event Purpose:**
The purpose of Engage is to energize and equip local churches to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world by empowering local church mission leaders. The plenary and breakout sessions are designed to encourage clergy and lay mission leaders to rethink and reframe missions as ministry that provides opportunities for transformation through relationships. The Friday night worship and learning session is central to the event and will set the framework for everything participants will experience in Saturday’s sessions.

See more at:  [http://www.ctcumc.org/engage](http://www.ctcumc.org/engage)

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**Mount Sequoyah**

United Methodist Study School

**September 12-19**

Registration is now open for the 2017 United Methodist Study School. This year is a cooperative effort between Hendrix College and Mount Sequoyah Center; courses offered for local pastors are:

- United Methodist Doctrine and Polity
- United Methodist History

Questions?

For academic questions, contact Rev. JJ Whitney at [whitney@hendrix.edu](mailto:whitney@hendrix.edu).

For registration, housing and meals, contact Denni Palmer at [denni.palmer@mountsequoyah.org](mailto:denni.palmer@mountsequoyah.org)

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**Youth Workers’ Sabbath**

**August 10-12, 2017**

Youth Worker Sabbath: A time for Youth Workers (both paid and volunteer) to gather together to recuperate from summer and recharge for the new year.

This year our theme is "Take What You Need." Our speaker will be a familiar face: Beth Johnson, the Minister to Youth and Families at University Park United Methodist Church, and former Youth Director of Central UMC in Waco.

Come learn and grow together!

[Click here for more information and to register!](http://www.ctcumc.org/engage)

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**Team Leader Training**

Are you planning a mission trip for 2017, or would like to take one, but don’t know where or how to lead such a trip? Are you aware of the 6 Best Practices for a mission team?

**Sign Up Now for UMVIM (United Methodist Volunteers in Mission)**

**TEAM LEADER TRAINING:**

Saturday, May 6 at FUMC Mansfield (9am-1pm)

Go Here for all information and to register.
The wait is over and the time is now to register for the 12th National Gathering of UMMen!

This year’s gathering will be held July 7-8 at St. Luke United Methodist Church in Indianapolis, IN. Our theme will be: Discipleship – The Contact Sport.

Guest speakers include Bishops Jonathan Holston and James Swanson as well as Dr. Kevin Watson (author of The Class Meeting) and Shan Foster (director of MEND – Ending Violence-Mending Communities).

Attendees will be able to choose from 19 workshops to learn new techniques for making men into growing disciples of Jesus Christ and 3 mission outreach projects hosted by our ministry partners.

To register or for hotel information, please click here. For all registration questions, please email Martha Davis (mdavis@gcumm.org).

See you in Indianapolis!
Striving to be His servant-

Gil Hanke
General Secretary/CEO
General Commission on United Methodist Men