



West District News

February, 2019



Equipping the Saints / A Call to Prayer

I would like to thank everyone who took part in Equipping the Saints, the leadership training in Kerrville January 26. It was great to see everyone and to hear from the Bishop.

I would like to ask everyone to be in prayer for the General Conference called session that will be February 23-26, 2019.

Blessings and peace,

Andy

TAKE A DAY - MAKE A DIFFERENCE FOREVER! SONORA MISSION TRIP February 2nd, 2019

Meet at Whitson Communications building 7:30a.m. this Saturday, Feb. 2, in Menard!
Contact: whitsoncom@gmail.com, 325-396-2609
Team leaders this trip: Brandon Corbin, Steve Whitson, and Stacey Evans (Brady).

We already have several new members on board for this trip. The number of dedicated individuals grows. But the need is great. At least 50-75 houses still need work now. Lets show these folks they are not forgotten. After a safety and training session, we will proceed to the Baptist Church in Sonora. A team from First United Methodist church of Brady will be onsite the 1st and 2nd. Thank you Brady -you are a true blessing. **STEP UP AND BE A LEADER TO HELP OTHERS!**

Miles United Methodist Church

will have their annual Super Bowl Stew Fest on **Sunday, February 3, 2019**,
at Weatherby Hall in Miles, TX.

Times are 11:00 A.M. - 1:30 P.M.

Meal will include homemade stew, cornbread, desserts, iced tea and water.

Cost is \$8.00 per person. Drive thru and to go orders will be available.

*Happy
Valentine's
Day*

Ministry through Administration

I attended Equipping the Saints this past weekend and enjoyed seeing everyone! I assisted with registration and was able to visit with Liz and Pam from the Hill Country District. Blessed by it!

Following lunch, I sat in on Andy's session, Staff/Pastor-Parish Relations Committee Training. I have copies of his power-point presentation, if anyone would like a copy please let me know.

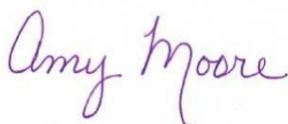
He offered the definition of the committee as the administrative unit in the local church where staff and congregational interests are integrated to focus on the mission of the church. He went over ¶258.2 in the *Book of Discipline*, Committee Basics, and where noted a youth may be on the committee, he highly recommended this NOT take place. Please read ¶258.2 for more information.

Andy wanted to make sure everyone was aware the Pastor does not need a job description as theirs is in the *Book of Discipline*, ¶340. They are responsible for Word, Sacrament, Order, and Service.

S/PPRC Functions—what really matters: 1) ¶258.g1 “To encourage, strengthen, nurture, support, and respect the pastors and staff and their families;” Listening to pastor, to staff, to congregation; Fruitful ministry: Making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world; Advocating for the pastor, for the staff.

This is the time of year, recommendations have been made to the Bishop and Cabinet and they are looking at future appointments. Please keep our S/PPRC's, Pastors, Cabinet and Bishop in your prayers.

Let's stay connected,



Administrative Assistant Needed

Goldthwaite First United Methodist Church is seeking a full time Administrative Assistant. We are looking for a master multi-tasker with excellent communication skills and an upbeat attitude. Candidates should be able to assist in handling office tasks, providing polite and professional assistance via phone, mail, and e-mail, and generally being a helpful and positive presence in the workplace. The applicant must be comfortable with computers, general office tasks, and excel at both verbal and written communication. The applicant should have a genuine desire to meet the needs of others. Most importantly, the applicant is required to keep confidences, to have discretion and mature judgment, and the ability to work graciously with people in all situations. The applicant must pass a background check. To be considered for this position, please send a cover letter and resume to Rev. John Alsbrooks by email available on our webpage: fumcgoldthwaite.org or P.O. Box 447, Goldthwaite, Texas 76844. Questions may be directed to Rev. Alsbrooks 325-792-6717.



Lay Servant Ministry

March 2, 2019

FUMC Eldorado

“Anyone who believes in him will never be put to shame.” For there is no difference between Jews and Gentiles—the same Lord is Lord of all and richly blesses all who call on him, for “Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.”

How, then, can they call on the one they have not believed in? And, how can they believe in the one whom they have not heard? And, how can they hear without someone preaching to them? And, how can anyone preach unless they are sent? As it is written: “How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!”

Romans 10:11-15

On Saturday, March 2, laity from all churches in the West District are invited to participate in the Basic or Advanced Courses for Lay Servant Ministry.

The Basic Course is the foundational course to acquaint laity with their spiritual gifts, John Wesley doctrine, organization, and ministries of the church. This course focuses on the many ways Lay Servants are called to be in ministry through Caring, Leading, and Communicating.

The Advanced Course focuses on the ministry of the Lay Servant who either regularly or occasionally leads a group, class, organization, or the congregation in worship. A Certified Lay Servant is laity who completed the Basic Course and the Advanced Course. Certified Lay Servants are to serve within and beyond the local church. To continue to be a Certified Lay Servant, you must complete an Advanced Course every three years.

Therefore, Lay Ministry Training – Basic and Advanced – are being offered Saturday, March 2 at FUMC Eldorado, 15 N. Divide, Eldorado, Texas, with registration beginning at 8:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

Registration Form: Fee \$25.00 per person, includes book, lunch and refreshments

Name: _____

Church: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____

_____ Yes to Pulpit Supply _____ Local _____ Certified Cash/Check: # _____



West District Lay Ministry Training
Saturday, March 2, 2019
Basic and Advanced Courses
First United Methodist Church
15 N. Divide, Eldorado, TX 76936

Basic Course: \$25.00 Led by: Rev. Janet Larson, Eldorado First United Methodist Church

The Basic Course focuses on the many ways Lay Servants are called to be in ministry through such things as preaching, leading, teaching, serving, proclaiming the gospel, disciple-making, storytelling, and growing through personal spiritual formation. Purposes include caring, leading, and communicating.

Advanced Course: \$25.00 Led by: Jill Preston, Lay Servant Trainer

“Leading Worship” This Advanced Course is grounded in the classic patterns of Christian worship and the practices of leading worship. (A Book of Worship is recommended. Pre-registration is highly recommended so you can have the book, *“Worshiping with United Methodists”* by Hoyt L. Hickman, to read prior to the beginning of the course.)

Sessions are open to anyone interested in learning about Lay Ministry. To be a Certified Lay Servant you must complete the Basic Course and the Advanced Course. To continue your certification, you must complete an advanced course every 3 years. Please contact Amy at the West District Office, (325)486-1500 or westamy@suddenlinkmail.com, to pre-register or come by the District Office at 1315 S. Abe Street to pay and pick up a copy of the book.

Schedule:	8:30 a.m.	Registration / Refreshments
	8:45 a.m.	Morning Worship
	9:00 a.m.	Basic and Advanced Courses
	11:45 a.m.	Lunch
	12:30 p.m.	Make a Joyful Noise
	1:00 p.m.	Basic and Advanced Courses continue
	3:00 p.m.	Closing Worship

Items to Bring: Bible, Notebook, Writing Instruments,
Book of Worship recommended for Advanced Course

West District Lay Servant Ministries:

Director: Louise Whitson, lwhitsoncen@gmail.com, (325)869-0554

Trainer: Jill Preston, jpreston4@verizon.net, (325)450-3115

Pulpit Supply: Lori Jo Thomas, lojorthomas@gmail.com, (325)763-4884

West District Office:
1315 W. Abe St.
San Angelo, TX 76903

Website: www.umcwayoutwest.org
Email: Amy Moore, westamy@suddenlinkmail.com
Phone: (325)486-1500

Calendar

- Feb. 1 Andy – DS Group, Dallas
2 Menard – Mission Trip to Sonora, more information on page 1
3 Miles – Souper Bowl Stew Fest, 11:00 am – 1:30 pm
5 Concho Country Emmaus Gathering, Sierra Vista UMC, 6:30 p.m.
6-7 Cabinet Meeting
8 Andy – Conference Trustee Meeting, San Antonio
11-13 BOM Interviews
13-14 Cabinet Meeting
23-26 Called General Conference
- Mar. 2 Lay Speaker Training, Eldorado
6-7 Cabinet Meeting
8-9 DST Planning Retreat
13-14 Cabinet Meeting
20-21 Cabinet Meeting
25-26 Conference Retirement Seminar, University UMC San Antonio
27-28 Cabinet Meeting

**West District
Rio Texas Conference
United Methodist Church**

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San Angelo, TX 76903**

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Emails:

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**Amy Moore, Operations Manager
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District Web-Page:

www.umcwayoutwest.org