



# West District News

May, 2019



*¡Viva Fiesta!*

Friends, I am so grateful for the wonderful West District Conference and Fiesta we had on Sunday at First UMC in San Angelo! Thanks to FUMC staff and volunteers, and to the District Strategy Team for making preparations, and to the Costa Rican Mission Team for the delicious tacos! Thanks to the 11<sup>th</sup> Hour Praise Band for inspiring music, and to Rev. Laura Merrill for bringing the message. And, of course, thanks to our district Operations Manager, Amy Moore, for everything she does for us!!!

At the Conference, we worshipped, ate, celebrated, and did a little business; including electing our district officers, and approving the budget, for 2020. We celebrated Easter worship experiences and innovative ministries and outreach across the district.

The following “Moving Clergy” are being recognized by our district. Clergy retiring are Revs. Charlie Baskin, Everette Boyce, John Fluth and Larry Young. Clergy departing the West District are Revs. Sheree Harris and David Sanchez. Also, Rev. Jim Noble is moving within the district. That means that of our 40 churches, seven (17.5%) are experiencing a change in pastoral leadership. I want to thank these pastors for their faithful service and witness. Each of them is a true servant minister, dedicated to the gospel of Jesus Christ, and to our Wesleyan way of itinerant ministry.

As I drive around the West and Hill Country Districts (a lot!), I am struck by the great spirit of optimism, courage, and grace that is evident among our churches. In each place I am greeted warmly and treated as a trusted friend. I give thanks to God for all of you, and pray God’s richest blessings on you all. Be on the lookout for a silver Toyota RAV4, driving only a little bit too fast near your town, and extend a bit of grace - it might just be your friendly, neighborhood DS on his way to somewhere.

Blessings and Peace,

*Andy*

**Annual Conference volunteers needed:** If anyone attending Annual Conference next month would like to volunteer to be ushers during the retirement service, mid-day, June 7th please contact Amy Moore at the District Office. We will need 10-12 from the West District. Thank you!

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## July 28 - August 1, 2019 Sunday, 4:00 pm through Thursday, 11:00 am

Families are invited to attend closing worship on Thursday at 10am.

### Camp location:

Butman Methodist Camp, 158 County Road 674, Merkel, TX 79536

**Cost:** \$250 fee per camper.

Please mail registration forms and make checks payable to the following:

Sierra Vista  
United Methodist Church  
4522 College Hills Blvd.  
San Angelo, Texas 76904  
325/944-4041  
Fax: 325/947-7086



This camp is hosted by Sierra Vista United Methodist Church. We greatly appreciate their willingness to open it to the West District and the Rio Texas Conference.

For more information please contact:

Kelly Duke, Associate Pastor  
Cell: 325.656.8068 [texts welcome]  
Email: [kduke@sierravista.org](mailto:kduke@sierravista.org)

Tina Glass, Director, Youth Ministries  
Cell: 325.450.1231 [texts welcome]  
Email: [tglass@sierravista.org](mailto:tglass@sierravista.org)

Check out the District webpage for registration forms. (Under the "Forms & Events" tab)



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**Lay Servant Ministries, Basic and Advanced: Devotional Life in the Wesleyan Tradition, courses** will be offered in the Hill Country District on June 22, 2019 at FUMC Boerne. The cost is \$30 which includes lunch and book. If you are interested in attending this training, contact Scott Maderer, HCD Lay Servant Director at [csmaderer@gmail.com](mailto:csmaderer@gmail.com).

## Del Rio—Border Work



City council members Tuesday approved a lease agreement with a local humanitarian coalition for use of the Chihuahua Neighborhood Facility as an immigrant processing center.

Four members of the Del Rio City Council during a special meeting voted in favor of authorizing City Manager Matt Wojnowski to execute the lease between the city and the Val Verde Border Humanitarian Coalition.

Del Rio News Herald, May 1 2019

[http://delrionewsherald.com/news/article\\_b8b5288e-6ba7-11e9-9b85-1b9ef50f52d7.html](http://delrionewsherald.com/news/article_b8b5288e-6ba7-11e9-9b85-1b9ef50f52d7.html)

## West District Missions

Dear Pastors and Laity,

I am inviting you to participate in the development of a Missions Committee for the West District. Currently there is no organized mission effort in our district. It would be great to have volunteers from the pastors and from the laity in helping to develop and organize this committee.

The formation would look similar to the Hill Country District's structure in order to work in tandem with any mission efforts that arise. Part of the goals would be to develop strategies for handling long - and short-term mission issues that might arise not only in our own district, but that might arise in other districts, our state, our nation and our world. One example of this is the border issue. The Hill Country District has been very active in helping churches become connected with the needs and working to help meet those needs.

Pastors, your involvement is critical as connectional points of contact and support, and also in identifying those members in your congregations who have a heart for mission that would be willing to serve on this committee and help develop best practices for a West District Mission Committee.

If you or any member of your congregation is interested in serving on this committee, please contact me by phone, 512-557-4170 (c) or email [bunjackson@centurytel.net](mailto:bunjackson@centurytel.net).

Thank you

Bun Jackson

## Upcoming Training:



**ERT Basic Training at**

**FUMC Menard**

**201 Gay Street, Menard**

**on May 18<sup>th</sup>, 2019**

**from 8:00am to 4:00pm**

**For more information or to register go to:**

**<https://riotexasresponse.org/ert-basic>**

**“Are you Ready, Are you Able, Are you Willing?”**

**There is something for everyone to do.**

**For questions or concerns, please contact Ginnie Street, Rio Texas Conference Disaster Response Training Coordinator at 512-203-7730 or [training@riotexasresponse.org](mailto:training@riotexasresponse.org)**

# Calendar

- May 1-2 District Committee on Ordained Ministry Interviews, Sierra Vista UMC  
5 District Conference / Fiesta, First UMC San Angelo, 4:00 p.m.  
7 Concho Country Emmaus Gathering, Sierra Vista UMC, 6:30 p.m.  
8-10 Andy – DS Group  
11-18 Licensing School for Local Pastors  
15-16 Cabinet Meeting  
17-18 Candidacy Summit  
18 ERT Training, Menard  
20-21 Right Start, for all moving clergy  
21 Cabinet Meeting  
27 Shush-free Worship, Sierra Vista UMC, 7:00 p.m.
- June 4 Concho Country Emmaus Gathering, Sierra Vista UMC, 6:30 p.m.  
5-8 Rio Texas Annual Conference, Corpus Christi  
12-13 Cabinet Meeting  
14-24 Andy – vacation  
15 Lay Speaking Training, Goldthwaite  
24 Shush-free Worship, Sierra Vista UMC, 7:00 p.m.  
27 Moving Day for moving clergy

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

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**District Web-Page:**

**[www.umcwayoutwest.org](http://www.umcwayoutwest.org)**