



West District News

March, 2020

West District Friends,

I can't believe it's March already! I want to say thanks to those who attended our training event, "Bridging the Distance" on Feb. 29 in San Angelo. Carl Rohlf's did a great job engaging us to think about bridging the distance we create between ourselves and God, and the distances between us in West Texas. Who knew a competitive game of *Blockhead!* would be so funny? Who knew *Blockhead!* still exists?

We also engaged in some sharing and listening to each other, and heard a little bit about the upcoming General Conference of the UMC, May 5-15 in Minneapolis. *Keep praying, please.*

And thank you to our Bridging the Distance leadership team, and to First UMC San Angelo for hosting us so well. Please send us some feedback about the event. (See below where!)

Those in attendance know that just before everything got started on Saturday morning, I received a call from my mother telling me that my Dad had just been admitted to the hospital in New Braunfels. As the day progressed we learned that he had a mild heart attack, possibly caused by a clot near his heart. He's feeling much better now, and got discharged from the hospital on Monday. His condition is being treated with a couple of new medications. The worst part of it was that Dad had to miss his grandson's wedding Saturday evening (my nephew Tyler). After we knew Dad was going to recover, we made sure we got Mom to the wedding in Wimberley on time. Thanks to all of you who have reached out to me to inquire about Dad; and, of course, for your prayers.

This time of year makes me particularly glad I live in Texas. I saw my first few bluebonnets this weekend; and this is when my favorite tree, the Mountain Laurel, blooms in all its purple, sweet-smelling beauty. I'm starting to plan my back porch herbs and peppers garden. And I'm starting to see more newborn lambs, kids and calves as I drive here and there (mostly there!).

It is always good to see my West District friends. Be looking for me as I try to get around to most of you this year.

Blessings and Peace,,
Andy



Send feedback to:
westamy@suddenlinkmail.com
Subject: Bridging the Distance

Candidacy Summit

By nature of our baptism, we are all called into ministry. We are incorporated into the Body of Christ, where we are to utilize our God given gifts and talents for the furtherance of the Gospel and God's kingdom. It is within the community of faith that persons are identified as having gifts for set apart ministry to lead and provide spiritual nurture to the Body of Christ and be bridge builders between the church and the world. A call to set apart ministry involves a discernment process in which a person not only senses a call from God, but is also affirmed in that call by the Body of Christ.

If you are sensing God calling you to the set apart ministries of Elder, Deacon or Licensed Local Pastor within the Rio Texas Conference of the United Methodist Church, begin by taking these next steps in your discernment process:

- 1) Contact your pastor or campus minister and discuss with them your sense of calling.
- 2) Order the following resource to read and discuss with your pastor: The Christian as Minister available at www.cokesbury.com.
- 3) [Download the Candidate Formation Checklist](https://riotexas.org/candidacy-summit) at <https://riotexas.org/candidacy-summit> and begin working through the steps outlined there. Candidacy is the first formal step toward ordination as a deacon or an elder or licensing in The United Methodist Church.
- 4) Prepare to attend a Candidacy Summit.

The next Candidacy Summit is scheduled May 1-2, 2020. The **deadline to register is April 1, 2020.**

Announcement (One more time!)

The West District has caught-up with the changing times!
We are on social media, specifically Facebook! Find us listed as:

West District Rio Texas UMC

Who? We want all of our pastors, church staff, and church leaders (or members who are interested) to join our Facebook group.

How will it be used? We will use our Facebook page as an additional vehicle for communications about events or programs that we wish to share with our fellow District churches. We also want to share in one another's church or community joys and concerns! Post photos of special events or happenings. We hope that you will share District happenings from our page as well!

How it will NOT be used? This will not be a forum for sharing inspirational memes or quotes. It will also not be a place for posing philosophical questions or pondering potentially politically-fueled discussions. These posts will be rejected/removed.



Texas Mission of Mercy: San Angelo

April 17-18, 2020

Texas Mission of Mercy is a mobile dental clinic that provides FREE care to those in need on a first come, first served basis. The services include basic, pain-relieving and preventative procedures such as dental cleanings, fillings, and extractions. **Patients should arrive by 5AM.** Because TMOM is first come, first-served, the clinic will stop accepting patients once capacity is reached.

Texas Mission of Mercy - San Angelo

April 17-18, 2020

First United Methodist Church of San Angelo

37 Beauregard Ave.

San Angelo, TX 76903

For more information, visit tmomvolunteer.org

This event is organized in part by Lesa Parry, Wesley Nurse, RN
with Methodist Healthcare Ministries of South Texas, Inc.



TEXAS MISSION OF MERCY SAN ANGELO

April 17-18, 2020

First United Methodist Church- 37 Beauregard Ave

Texas Mission of Mercy (TMOM) is a mobile dental clinic that travels around the state providing basic dental care (including cleanings, fillings, and extractions) free of charge to uninsured and under insured Texans. Treatment provided at a TMOM is focused on relieving pain.

TMOM is a program of the Texas Dental Association Smiles Foundation (TDASF). As the charitable arm of the Texas Dental Association, TDASF's mission is to educate the public about oral health and improve access to care for citizens of Texas.

The goal of the San Angelo TMOM is to provide 600-800 patients with approximately \$600,000 worth of charitable dental care.

More than 500 volunteer opportunities are available in many different areas of patient care including:

- Dental Education & Treatment
- Patient & Record Management
- Language Translation
- Emergency Medical Care
- Patient & Volunteer Hospitality



Volunteer Registration online at
tmomvolunteer.org

Please consider volunteering your time so that others can smile.





**WOMEN'S RETREAT
FOR
LAY AND CLERGY WOMEN
RIO TEXAS CONFERENCE
FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
900 S. SHORELINE
CORPUS CHRISTI, TEXAS
APRIL 17-19, 2020**

Dear Sisters in Christ,

The Coastal Bend District is very excited to host this event for all LAY and CLERGY WOMEN of the Rio Texas Conference.

Rev. Dr. Katharine Rhodes Henderson, President of Auburn Seminary in New York, will be our Retreat Leader. We are truly blessed to have Dr. Henderson coming to

us. Several others and I heard her speak in New Orleans a number of years ago and have not forgotten the experience. The theme is:

JOY & RESISTANCE

Dr. Henderson will be sharing information on research she has been involved in called "Bright Spots." She will be sharing the JOY found in innovative ministry that is working in various settings, and addressing the RESISTANCE that is experienced in the midst of change.

Dr. Henderson will be talking about demographic changes in our country and how we might create a world where we ALL BELONG.

Participants can also expect to experience the value of poetry and journaling as important elements in spiritual growth and maturity.

Since this is a "women's" retreat our leader will be presenting content as seen through that gender lens — both the upside and downside!

In the mist of the changes we are facing in The United Methodist Church, let's come together to learn how we might more effectively be the hands, feet and voice of Christ in our world today.

Along with the leadership team, I am looking forward to experiencing this event with you. Please go to <https://www.coastalbendumc.org/district-womens-retreat.html> for more information regarding retreat and hotel registration!

Rev. Dr. Karen S. Boehk
Assistant to the District Superintendent
Coastal Bend District
Rio Texas Conference

Calendar

Mar.	3	BOM Interviews
	4-5	Cabinet
	8	Daylight Saving Time BEGINS
	11-12	Cabinet
	12-13	Amy Off
	16	Andy in San Angelo
	18-19	Cabinet
	21	Lay Servant Ministries Training, Del Rio
	23	Shush-free Worship, Sierra Vista UMC, 7 pm
	25-26	Cabinet
	31	District Committee on Ordained Ministry Annual Interviews
Apr.	1	District Committee on Ordained Ministry Annual Interviews
	7	Concho Country Emmaus Gathering, Sierra Vista UMC
	8-9	Cabinet
	10	District Office Closed (Good Friday)
	15-16	Cabinet
	13-17	Amy—Out PAUMCS Conference
	20-21	Andy in San Angelo
	20	District Strategy Team Meeting
	22-23	Cabinet
	27	Clergy Convocation
	29-1	Andy—TMF DS Group



West District Rio Texas Conference United Methodist Church

1315 South Abe Street
San Angelo, TX 76903

Phone: 325-486-1500

Fax: 325-482-0033

Emails:

Andy Smith, District Superintendent
asmith@riotexas.org

Colleen Haley, DS Ministry Assistant
revcgh@yahoo.com

Amy Moore, Operations Manager
westamy@suddenlinkmail.com

District Web-Page:

www.umcwayoutwest.org