



# West District News

September, 2020

## A Word from Ken:



With school starting and churches getting ready to restart children and youth activities, I have a few thoughts. We all remember “But Jesus said, “Let the little children come to Me, and do not forbid them; for of such is the kingdom of heaven.” (Matthew 19:14 NKJV). I also want to remind you of, “I have no greater joy than to hear that my children walk in truth.” (3 John 1:4 NKJV). With all the social distancing that we have had to practice I worry that our children are missing a lot of relationships that make us who we are, as we age. I was kind of an introverted child growing up but looking back the children that I went to church with helped to shape me into who I am today. Children need a safe space to learn and practice social interactions, especially today when most of their peer interactions are via an electronic device. It is hard to get through a child’s outer shell, but games are a great way to let them open up. I am not suggesting Red Rover as a social interaction but there are many activities that are fun but at the same time, safely, let children express themselves. Our conference website, <https://riotexas.org/> and <https://www.umc.org/> have a lot of resources for children’s activities. Also be sure to reach out to one another and find out what has been working at their churches. Praying that you all have a great start to this new school year and that you are able to stay safe while showing God’s love to each other.

Blessings,

*Ken*

**Rio Texas Conference Disaster Relief  
Advance Special #2050**

## Camp Awesomeness Rocks! 2020

For the past several years, the Hill Country and West Districts have sponsored a tween camp known as Camp Awesomeness. Early each year, the Camp Awesomeness Team of Bethany Graham, Celia Halfacre, Leigh Lloyd and Glenn Luhrs meet to pray, discuss, plan and pull together Camp Awesomeness.

The year 2020 calls from all of us flexibility and creativity. In early May, the Camp Awesomeness Team came to realization that holding an in-person camp was not practical or safe for our campers and staff. Suddenly, all of our previous plans and experience meant nothing. We were entering new territory. We asked ourselves, "Can we really do a virtual camp? What does that look like?" Ultimately, our goal was to find ways to include what we considered to be the most vital aspects of camp: fellowship, fun, food, Bible study, small groups, crafts, recreation and Christ Candle.

From May to until **literally** the very last minute in July, the camp staff planned and created content to put together a camp experience. The camp theme for 2020 was ROCKS, Radical Opportunities for Compassion and Kindness, which allowed us to create content that would work online

and offline. We had online large group and small group time, twice a day, with numerous activities that the campers could complete at anytime with their families. We uploaded videos of the staff doing all of the activities, so everyone got the most out of their camp experience.

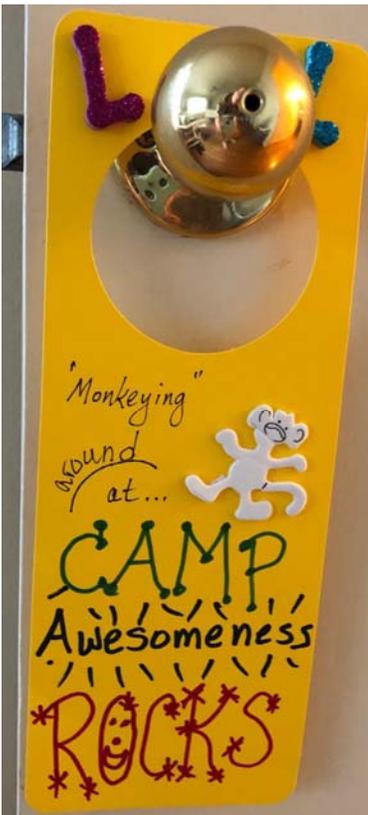
Each camper received a "Camp Awesomeness Rocks Box" filled with all the things they needed for camp: a t-shirt, craft supplies, snack supplies, a song sheet, science experiment supplies, and a camp handbook with all the instructions for all the activities.

During our live time, we had fun, laughed, told jokes, watched silly videos, sang silly songs and worshipful songs, prayed and shared our lives together in community. We praised God and learned to look for the radical opportunities to show God's compassion and kindness to those around us.

We asked for and received pictures of our campers completing their various camp crafts and activities and shared them with all of the campers.

On the last day, just like always, we were sad to see Camp Awesomeness Rocks 2020 end. Yes, camp was different in 2020! And YES - it was another powerful experience for campers and staff alike.

Next year, we hope to return to Slumber Falls, outside of New Braunfels for Camp Awesomeness 2021.



Miles United Methodist Church's  
Annual

# Sausage FESTIVAL

Sunday,  
OCTOBER 4

Weatherby Hall — Miles, Texas

10:30 A.M. - 1:00 P.M.

**DRIVE THRU ONLY — NO DINE IN**

**\$10<sup>00</sup>**  
PLATE

Menu Includes:

- Sausage
- German Potatoes
- Coleslaw
- Dessert
- Sauerkraut
- Green Beans
- Rolls

— SAUSAGE PRE-SALE —

Fresh Link Sausage For Sale By The Pound  
*Raw Or Cooked*

*\$7/Pound Raw • \$9/Pound Cooked*

**RAFFLE TICKETS**

Drawing For ...

- Outdoor Gourmet Flat Top  
Four Burner Griddle
- Cornhole Boards With Bags
- Gift Card To Ideal Food Store

**\$1 EACH**



**Fresh Sausage Must Be  
Pre-Ordered This Year!  
Deadline: September 27**

Please Contact:

Mark Sklenarik: 325.895.0511

Bill Book: 325.895.0622

Janice Alexander: 325.895.0403

For More Information:

[facebook.com/Miles-United-Methodist-Church](https://www.facebook.com/Miles-United-Methodist-Church)



# Sierra Vista United Methodist Church

4522 College Hills Blvd., San Angelo, Texas 76904

(325) 944-4041 Fax: (325) 947-7086

[www.sierravista.org](http://www.sierravista.org)

## Job Posting: Director of Youth Ministries

Sierra Vista United Methodist Church is seeking qualified candidates for the full-time position of Director of Youth Ministries. This position oversees all programming and ministry for the youth of Sierra Vista UMC, ages 6<sup>th</sup> grade through 12<sup>th</sup> grade.

San Angelo is a metropolitan area of approximately 100,000 people and is the urban hub for much of West Central Texas. Located on the west side of the city, Sierra Vista is the largest United Methodist congregation in the District and worships approximately 500 weekly.

Salary is commensurate with education and experience.

### Qualifications:

- A growing, dynamic Christian faith.
- A clear call to youth ministry.
- Faithfulness to the doctrine of the United Methodist Church.
- Gifts in leading, equipping, and building teams.
- An ability to work harmoniously with diverse personalities.
- Knowledge and experience in Bible study.
- A diligent work ethic.
- Related education or work history.

### Responsibilities:

- Create an environment where youth grow in knowledge and acceptance of Jesus' love.
- Plan, coordinate, and implement experiences for youth on Sunday morning, Sunday evening, and mid-week for youth in the church and community to grow their faith.
- Develop relationships with the youth of our community through presence at municipal and school events.
- Recruit, train, schedule, and lead the youth ministry parent/volunteer leadership team.
- Maintain budgetary requirements for Youth Ministry areas.
- Innovate for and manage special youth events: Pumpkin Patch, Youth-led Worship, outreach events, mission trips, and others as they arise.
- Provide information that will connect youth and parents through the newsletter, church bulletin, and social media channels.
- Be physically present at and coordinate active leadership for all Youth Ministry events.
- Adapt the overall vision of the Church specifically to youth.

Resumes may be sent to [office@sierravista.org](mailto:office@sierravista.org) until position is filled.

# SEPTEMBER

## Calendar:

- 1 Coffee with Andy, Zoom, 8:30 a.m.
- 1 Concho Country Emmaus Gathering, 6:30 p.m., Sierra Vista UMC
- 8 Coffee with Andy, Zoom, 8:30 a.m.
- 11 Zoom Webinar with Jozlin
- 15 Coffee with Andy, Zoom, 8:30 a.m.
- 16-17 Cabinet Meeting
- 22 Coffee with Andy, Zoom, 8:30 a.m.
- 29 Coffee with Andy, Zoom, 8:30 a.m.

Special Date to Remember:

October 3, 2020 Rio Texas Annual Conference

West District  
Rio Texas Conference  
United Methodist Church

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Ken Wadley, Program Coordinator  
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Amy Moore, Operations Manager  
westamy@suddenlinkmail.com

Do you know families who have  
legitimate food needs?

**(325) 650-9932**

Please reach out  
to this number  
**TODAY!**



The food insecure are eligible  
for 2 weeks of groceries.

Sierra Vista  
United Methodist Church  
Food Ministries

District Webpage: [www.umcwayoutwest.org](http://www.umcwayoutwest.org)