



West District News

October, 2020

It's the Fourth Quarter!



Hello, Friends.

It's October, which means 2020 is almost over! So, clean the snout-nosed butterflies off your windshield, put on your fall facemask, and enjoy the cooler weather.

October is Pastor Appreciation Month, and what better time to show our pastors our appreciation than during this pandemic?! Pastors are putting in extra hours, acquiring new skills, serving in creative ways, AND feeling added stress every day because of the pandemic. They need appreciation and affirmation - AND THEY NEED SOME REST. Please make sure they get plenty of both.

In the Smith household, Robyn has been helping our youngest granddaughter, Annabelle, go to virtual kindergarten - in Spanish - while her parents work full-time. Every other week Robyn goes to Austin, or Annabelle and Maggie come to Kerrville. Which means I alternate from living in an empty house to a house with three generations of girls. (I prefer it when the girls are here.) We are all making adjustments to cope with Covid-19, and I know mine are pretty mild compared to so many others. I pray God continues to give us strength and creativity as we cope.

I want to remind you that our Rio Texas Annual Conference session is this Saturday, October 3, beginning at 8:00AM. It is online this year, so follow the link below to register, if you haven't already. All delegates will need a device (computer, laptop, tablet or phone) and an Internet connection to watch and participate in Annual Conference. And each delegate will need a smartphone and the *Election Buddy* app in order to vote. If you need a reliable wi-fi connection, you may attend annual conference at San Angelo: First UMC, Junction UMC, San Saba UMC, or perhaps at your home church. Here is the link to the Annual Conference Zoom meeting: <https://riotexas.org/annual-conference-2020>. I'll see you there!

I also want to call to your attention two statements regarding the Rio Texas Conference commitment to Anti-Racism in our structures, practices and witness. The first is a pastoral letter from Bishop Robert Schnase: <https://riotexas.org/news/2020/9/23/anti-racism-statement>. Please read this letter prior to our annual conference session, as Bishop Schnase will be referencing it at some point during the day. The second statement is a Covenant on Anti-Racism that I and my friends on the extended cabinet have crafted and signed: <https://riotexas.org/news/2020/9/23/covenant-on-anti-racism>.

This is important and difficult work that effects all of us. I am proud of the pro-active steps being taken; and I am always proud to be your DS.

Blessings and Peace,
Andy

A Word from Ken:



“Come, follow me,” Jesus said, “and I will make you fishers of men.” Mark 1:17

Exciting news from the Conference!!! Mark your calendars, on January 30th, the Conference will host a one-day virtual Lay Servant Basic class. This class will be offered bilingually. It can be done in a group setting, for example in your church, especially if your members do not have good Wi-Fi. The only thing to remember is that the group should still practice good social distancing and, everyone who attends needs to be registered. I would love for the West District to have the most participants, just my vanity at work, but also the more people that attend the better for our district. So...start spreading the word and as soon as the site is ready to start registering, I will pass the word.



God Bless.

Ken

Creating and Vitalizing Congregations New People, New Places Initiative

The office of Mission Field Ministries focuses and stewards the vision and mission of making disciples. How can existing congregations reach more new people, younger people and more diverse people? We applaud where the people and churches of the Rio Texas Conference have been successful in these goals and we desire to help where we have found such fruitfulness lacking.

Beginning in 2015, a new line item was created specifically setting aside funds for New People, New Places. Money for this area came from a realignment of our apportioned dollars so the local churches would not experience an increase in apportionments.

These funds will be distributed through a grant process 3 times a year. This money will be available to **local churches** and **districts** that demonstrate how they intend to use this money to reach new people for Christ or to be in new places in Christ. Funds may be used for, but are not limited to, program expenses, capital expenditures (not renovations), and so forth. No more than 20% of the total grant amount shall be allocated for administrative or staff expenses, ensuring at least 80% for initiative expenses. All grants shall be for one year; however, applications may be submitted for a second year based on fruitfulness. Please refer to “Certain General Restrictions,” below. All funding will be subject to availability, yet special attention and consideration will go to Latin/Hispanic Ministries.

Theologically and missionally, our goals are Wesleyan. We want more people to discover that God’s grace is real in their lives. We want more people to respond to that grace. We want more people to grow in that grace as a disciple of Jesus Christ. In this, we transform the world around us.

If you are interested in researching this grant more go to: <https://riotexas.org/new-places-new-people-grant>

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

\$10⁰⁰
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)

**KEEP the FIRE
BURNING!**

Men's Ministry Event

Saturday,
October 24, 2020

9:00 am - 12 Noon

*A Virtual
Men's Ministry Event*



Dr. David Klingler

Heisman Trophy Finalist
Sammy Baugh Trophy Winner
All-American University of Houston
and NFL Quarterback
Presently Associate Professor of
Bible Exposition



Dr. Wade Powell

Pastor, First United Methodist Church
Victoria, Victoria, TX
Doctorate in Divinity from
Duke University
Former Television News Anchor and
Producer

**“To register for this Free Online Men's Ministry Event and
Receive a ZOOM Link to Watch the Event,
please go to <https://www.riotexasumm.org>.”**

Our goal for the Event is to inspire our men to “keep the fire burning” for men's ministry and for making disciples of men and thereby helping to regrow our churches and making positive change in our households and communities.

*If you have questions, please email Milton Chapman
at mchapman@andersonsmith.com or
call 361-571-1091.*

MEN *All* **IN**

COMMITTED TO BUILDING MEN'S MINISTRY



Sierra Vista United Methodist Church

4522 College Hills Blvd., San Angelo, Texas 76904

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

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 6th grade through 12th 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 until position is filled.



Calendar:

- 3 Rio Texas Annual Conference, Zoom
- 6 Coffee with Andy, Zoom, 8:30 a.m.
- 6 Concho Country Emmaus Gathering, 6:30 p.m., Sierra Vista UMC
- 13 Coffee with Andy, Zoom, 8:30 a.m.
- 20 Coffee with Andy, Zoom, 8:30 a.m.
- 21-22 Cabinet Meeting
- 24 Men's Ministry Event
- 27 Coffee with Andy, Zoom, 8:30 a.m.

Clergy and SPRC Chairs – watch your email for the 2020 Consultation Forms coming your way soon. They will also be posted on the District website.

West District
Rio Texas Conference
United Methodist Church

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Fax: 325-482-0033

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revcgh@yahoo.com

Ken Wadley, Program Coordinator
westkenw@suddenlinkmail.com

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