

We are off to a wonderful start for 2021 at the Central South District. We started the new year off with report day on January 5th and we are so thankful to our wonderful team, Dr. Howard Bruce, Mrs. Juliana Bruce, Ms. Juanita Jackson & Jeremiah Green for an amazing job done. We had a total of 54 out of 56 churches to pay 100% of their apportionments for 2020. We appreciate each of your efforts as your faithfulness enables the Central South District to be about the business of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. We are looking forward to working with and for each of you in this new year.

Please be reminded that we are continuing to practice safe, social distancing. The Administrator continues to work in office and remotely. Many of our meetings and appointments are still being conducted by Zoom. Our office hours remain the same Monday – Thursday 8:00 am – 4:00 pm. It is more convenient to reach us by email, we are checking voicemail throughout the day when we are not in the office and calls are returned as quickly as possible.

We miss seeing you in person but know that we are here for you.



Central South District
Texas Annual Conference

Rev. Dr. Elijah Stansell
District Superintendent

2021 Virtual via Zoom
LAY LEADERSHIP TRAINING
AND
LAY SERVANT MINISTRIES CERTIFICATION

REGISTER FOR UPCOMING TRAINING
February 20, 2021
10:00 A.M. - 12:00 P.M.

Lay Leadership Training
Staff Parish Relations Committee
Board of Trustees
Finance Committee

Participants should order a copy of the Guidelines/Responsibilities for the respective training session through Cokesbury Bookstore (www.cokesbury.com)

Lay Servant Ministry Basic Certification
(continued on Saturday, February 27 from 8:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M.)
Textbook: *Lay Servant Ministries* by Sandy and Brian Jackson
Cokesbury Bookstore online at
www.cokesbury.com or (866) 980-8661

Lay Servant Ministry Advanced Certification
(continued on Saturday, February 27 from 8:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M.)
Textbook: *Each One a Minister* by William Carter
Cokesbury Bookstore online at
www.cokesbury.com or (866) 980-8661

Click link below to register:
LAY LEADERSHIP TRAINING AND LAY SERVANTS CERTIFICATION
Login link will be forwarded to members following your registration.

For questions, please contact Juanita Jackson at jjackson3014@sbcglobal.net.

Lay Leadership Training

Central South District has scheduled a Lay Leadership Training to include Staff Parish Relations Committee, Finance Committee, Board of Trustees and Certification in both Basic and Advanced courses in Lay Servant Ministry. There is no cost to participants; however, registration is required.

The required training books for Basic and Advanced Lay Servant Ministry must be purchased in advance of course through Cokesbury (www.cokesbury.com). Zoom information link will be forwarded to participants prior to training date.

Please share this information with your congregations and others who have a passion for Lay Servant Ministry. This training is open to all.

For more information contact Ms. Juanita Jackson @ jjackson3014@sbcglobal.net or Rev. Sandra Jones @ sandenjones@hotmail.com

For Registration: <https://conta.cc/2K3zzuv>



Covid-19 Vaccines for the Underserved

The Central South District has partnered with Texas Methodist Hospital in soliciting individuals to receive Covid-19 vaccinations. It is truly an honor for Houston Methodist to serve as one of the state's COVID-19 vaccine hubs. To date, Houston Methodist has administered more than 86,000 doses to members of our community who are the most vulnerable. As part of their vaccine plan, they are committed to also vaccinate those who live in underserved, hardest hit communities.

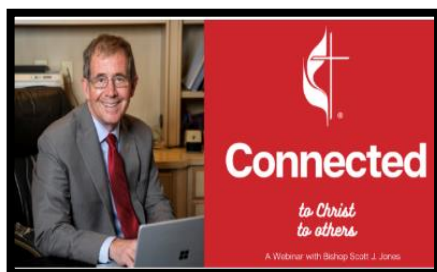
The Central South District of Texas Annual Conference is overjoyed to have been able to assist in getting this life-saving vaccine to the people who need it the most. It is our privilege to work with the congregants so we can help stop the spread together.

I am very grateful for every effort that was made to solicit persons within our district for possible Covid vaccination. As a quick update, Houston Methodist will be sending out a text message to those who signed up during the Sign Up effort. They will have options made available to them to self-schedule their vaccine using the link in the message. The message will also include a phone number for them to call if they need assistance with scheduling as we understand everyone is not tech savvy. Please note, we had 799 express interest in getting the vaccine from your effort, only 739 were eligible based on age (i.e. 65 and older). I will keep you posted on how the scheduling effort goes.



Elijah A. Stansell, Jr. District Superintendent

Bishop Jones Leads Webinar Conversation with Clergy & Laity



You do not want to miss this upcoming series with our very own Bishop Jones as he leads a webinar conversation with our clergy and laity on the inner workings of the United Methodist Church. It will be informative, interesting and there may even be a few give aways for those of you who are UMC experts! Mark your calendar for every Friday in February from 2-3 p.m. Registration required and is first come, first serve.

For more information: <https://www.txcumc.org/connected-to-christ-connected-to-others>
or you can register at: https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_omfsPqM8R8abY2oAmGY7hw

The sessions will be recorded so if you are unable to attend you may watch the recordings that will be posted on the TAC Website.

The phrase “Online church” is searched millions of times per month, yet many churches are still *not on-line* or are using the tool incorrectly.

Bishop Jones will be introducing Nona Jones, Facebook’s head of global faith-based partnership’s as we learn how to use on-line tools to attract and disciple people in your community in brand new ways.

This one-hour webinar on February 11, 2021 from 10-11 a.m. will take your social ministry from deceased to resurrected, just in time to reach people for Easter and beyond.

Space is limited and we ask that you only limit access to five people per church to allow other conferences to join. Nona Jones will be covering topics from her book, “From Social Media to Social Ministry: A guide to digital discipleship.”

Nona will be taking questions the last 15 minutes of the webinar. Priority will be given to questions sent ahead of time to communications@txcumc.org. Please send your questions by February 8, 2021 at 5 p.m.

If you have any questions, please contact, Shannon W. Martin, Director of Communications at smartin@txcumc.org

Please click the link below to join the webinar:

<https://zoom.us/j/97357962768?pwd=OFR2VWxaaEphOXFjQoFUN2Q3Ulk4dzog>



The Pastor's Moving....Now What?

A change of pastors is part of the rhythm of life for every United Methodist Church. It happens at some point for every church. Once a change has been announced, the goal of every pastor and church is to make that transition well. Saying goodbye and hello well takes planning and careful thought. That is particularly true in a season when we cannot do so much of what we normally do because of restrictions due to the pandemic.

Toward that end, the Office of Clergy Excellence is offering three identical zoom events called "The Pastor's Moving...Now What?". The three main topics that will be covered in the events are: Saying Goodbye and Hello Well; the 90 Day Action Plan (this covers what the pastor will do in the first 90 days of his or her new appointment); and the Logistics of a Move (move policy and benefits updates). Each event will last no more than 90 minutes and will include time for Q&A.

Presenters for these events include: Rev. Morris Matthis, Director of Clergy Excellence; Rev. Deborah Hawboldt, Associate Director of Clergy Excellence; Rev. Brenda Porter, Move Coordinator; and Barbara Kilby, TAC Group Health and Pension Benefits Manager.

Those who should attend are: all pastors going to new appointments; SPR members and other appropriate leaders from churches with outgoing and/or incoming pastors as well as staff or volunteers who manage the finances of the church.

All three of these events are identical. Pastors and leaders are encouraged to attend the first event after the appointment is announced. The sooner you attend, the more this information can help you.

Meeting information and accompanying links are as follows:

The Pastors Moving...Now What? I	March 15 @ 7:00 pm	https://zoom.us/j/99589994630
The Pastor's Moving...Now What? II	April 13 @ 7:00 pm	https://zoom.us/j/94158406345
The Pastor's Moving...Now What? III	May 11 @ 7:00 pm	https://zoom.us/j/92974812132

If you have questions about these events, do not hesitate to contact either your district superintendent or Nancy Slade at nslade@txcumc.org.



The Post Quarantine Church with author Thom Ranier

Wondering what will become of the church in the "new normal" future? The Texas Annual Conference is hosting a webinar about what is next, including what is expected to change and what will stay the same. "The-Post Quarantine Church" is scheduled for 10 a.m. on Thursday, March 4 and will be

followed by a Q&A. Thom Ranier, a former pastor, long-time church consultant, founder and CEO of Church Answers and Executive Director of Revitalize Network, will lead the webinar.

Ranier recently authored “The Post Quarantine Church: Six Urgent Challenges and Opportunities that Will Determine the Future of Your Congregation.” This guide covers the growing digital church, rethinking campus facilities and developing strategies for growth.

The talk will help pastors find positive ways to leverage new ideas and equip ministers to move courageously into the future. To join, click <https://zoom.us/j/97190832280>.

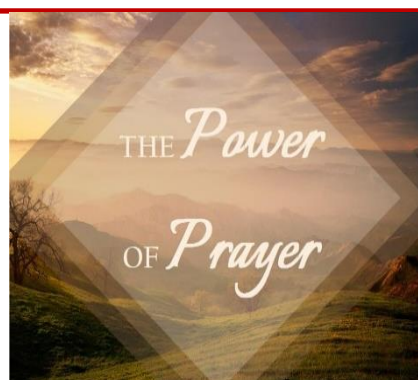
For more information, visit [Webinars \(txcumc.org\)](http://Webinars (txcumc.org))



Prayer Requests & Condolences

The family of Mrs. Billie Cox who passed away, she is the spouse of the late Rev. Joseph Cox, during this time of bereavement.

The family of Mr. Leroy White who passed away, he is the spouse of Rev. Marilyn White, pastor of Trinity East UMC



CENTRAL SOUTH DISTRICT OF THE TEXAS ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Rev. Dr. Elijah A. Stansell, Jr. – District Superintendent
Ms. Marylyn Green – District Administrator

3511 Linkwood Dr. • Houston, TX 77025
(inside the former Bethany United Methodist Church)
713-222-0117 • Email: csdistrict@txcumc.org

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/heartofhouston> Instagram: https://www.instagram.com/csd_umc/