



PRAYER CONCERN

Please keep Ruth fisher in your prayers. Her daughter reports that she is in congestive heart failure. Mrs. Fisher is now 98 years of age. She is the surviving spouse of Marvin E. Fisher. Her daughter can be contacted at Genie Gilley, 304 22nd St, Canyon, 79015, 806-651-2794.

HAITI UPDATE

Our trailer loaded up this past Tuesday, February 9, in Lubbock. It then traveled to Plainview, Amarillo, and stopped in Vernon. The trailer left Vernon on Wednesday, February 10, traveled to Abilene, and then headed to Louisiana. It arrived safely at Sager Brown, was able to unload, and is now headed back to the conference.

A huge "THANK YOU" goes to everyone who donated kits and money. The trailer had one foot of open space at the back. We plan to have the trailer at Roundup in August and will then we make another trip to Sager Brown.

2010 ANNUAL CONFERENCE

sharing HISTory
YESTERDAY TODAY TOMORROW

Have you heard - Annual Conference will be June 11 - 13 in Lubbock, TX this year. Yes, you read correctly, it will only be three days and will run Friday through Sunday.

Items are being placed on the web site, as they become available. Currently you can find a beginning schedule, hotel list, and the hotel tax exempt form. You will be notified when the registration forms, pre conference workbook and other items are added. Click here for the [web page](#)

Plans are under way for a great Centennial Celebration of our conference. We will have a Celebration Banquet on Friday night, June 11, at the Lubbock Civic Center. The celebration will include live music, Kenneth Wyatt will be the speaker, and a dance.

Another change being made this year is that the registration fee

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will be \$50 per person for the entire Annual Conference or \$25 per day. This registration fee applies to everyone, clergy, spouses, lay members, alternates, designated members, and visitors. The one exception is Retired Clergy and their Spouses.

It will also be important for you order a copy of the 2010 Conference Journal this year because we will not be printing copies for our Conference including local churches, clergy, or other persons unless they are ordered and paid for. The Journal will be on the web site in PDF format and everyone will be able to access it there.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

EMPLOYEE MANUAL WORKSHOP

A free workshop to discuss Employee Manuals will be held Thursday, February 18 at The Shropshire Agency, 5812 66, Lubbock, TX. You can RSVP at 806-763-7311.

FREE RESOURCES

Your congregations can now download several dozen free resources from the www.TheParishPaper.com Web site.

CANCELLATION

The February 17 Worship Retreat scheduled for Butman Methodist Camp and Retreat Center has been cancelled due to lack of interest.

ARSON PROTECTION

In light of the numerous church fires in East Texas, The Shropshire Agency has sent us a document from Guideone Insurance to help churches protect themselves from arson. To download this document, please [click here](#)

WESLEY MINISTRY NETWORK

Do you wish you could deepen your faith, but you're just too busy to attend a class or join a small group?

Get connected with Wesley Ministry Network ONLINE! Through a partnership with The Richard and Julia Wilke Institute for Discipleship, Wesley Ministry Network is beginning to offer its acclaimed lay education courses on-line. Three courses begin on February 22: Simply Christian, Devotion to Jesus, and Religion and Science: Pathways to Truth.

Each course features streaming video segments and on-line discussions with other students and experienced Wesley Ministry Network teachers. Courses are open to everyone, and CEUs are available for pastors.

Connect with other Christians to deepen your faith and grow in discipleship. Learn more and [register](#) by clicking on the register

link.

UPCOMING EVENTS

SMALL CHURCH LEADERSHIP

Small Church Leadership Institute will be March 8-12 at Mount Sequoyah Conference Center in Fayetteville, Arkansas. The Institute is designed to equip laity and pastors with the knowledge and skills to lead their small attendance church to a higher level of health and vitality.

Keynote speakers will be Alice Mann, Dr. Tim Reaves, Dr. Doug Anderson and Asa Whitaker. Each day you will also hear stories from pastors on how their small churches were transformed. During the four days there will be ample time for fellowship and networking.

Registration varies from \$439-\$359 and includes the program fee, lodging, meals and all materials. Commuter rates are available. Early Bird Discount available through Feb. 15. Register now at www.mountsequoyah.org. For questions call 800-760-8126 or email programs@mountsequoyah.org

LAY SPEAKING COURSES BEING OFFERED AT ROSWELL NM

Courses will be offered in Basic and Advanced. Dates are March 12-13, 2010 at Trinity UMC, 1413 S. Union Ave., Roswell. For brochure and registration for, click on Conference-training , events and Youth Events on the right hand side of the [New Mexico Conference](#) web site. Registration is \$45 for both courses.

Brochure/Registration form

YOUNG ADULT RETREAT

A Young Adults Retreat will be held April 9-11 at Butman Methodist Camp and Retreat Center.

Are you a 20 or 30-something? Do you need some time away from it all? Join us for a weekend of worship, renewal and retreat. More details coming soon. Contact Rev. Cameron Burton, camburton@gmail.com for more information.

LARGE CHURCH INITIATIVE April 12 - 15 in San Antonio, TX

47TH NATIONAL WORKSHOP ON CHRISTIAN UNITY

The Workshop will be held April 19 - 22 in Tampa, FL. For more information you can contact Rev. Betty Gamble, Associate General Secretary, at BGamble@gccuic-umc.org

PARISH/FAITH COMMUNITY NURSING COURSE

A Parish/Faith Community Nursing Basic Preparation Course will be held June 16,17,18,19 in Lubbock, TX from 8:30 a.m. - 5 p.m. Click here for [more information](#).

SPIRIT WIND

Spirit Wind will have an Outreach Tour to Atlanta/Orlando. Those dates are July 1-10.

ROUNDUP

Roundup will be Saturday, August 7, at First UMC, Lubbock. We will keep you updated on information as it becomes available.

NEWS FROM DEAN MCINTYRE, GENERAL BOARD OF DISCIPLESHIP

[*Black History Month: Songs of Protest*](#)

"I'll Go to Jail if the Spirit Says Jail"

"The Busses Are a-Comin'"

This week marks the 50th anniversary of the start of student sit-ins and the arrival of Freedom Rider busses from the north to protest the segregation of lunch counters in downtown Nashville, Feb. 13, 1960. There were demonstrations, busses, beatings, arrests, jail sentences, speeches and marches, but there were also prayers and singing from the jail cells. Here's an article and two of the improvised songs the demonstrators sang in jail.

What's New on www.UMCWorship.org

Week of February 14-20, 2010

[Church of the Week: First UMC, Corry, Pennsylvania](#)

[Worship Planning Helps: Feb. 21, 2010 - 1st Sunday in Lent](#)

[Preaching Helps: Feb. 21, 2010 - 1st Sunday in Lent](#)

[Lectionary Hymns: Feb. 21, 2010 - 1st Sunday in Lent](#)

[21st Century Worship Resources: Feb. 21, 2010 - 1st Sunday in Lent](#)

[Black History Month - Music Musings #230: Songs of Protest](#)

[Black History Month: "The Busses Are a-Comin'" - Civil Rights Protest Song](#)

[Worship-Music-Preaching Resources for Lent](#)

[The Power of Story in Local Congregations](#)

[Research Findings: The United Methodist Church and the Economic Crisis](#)

[Iona Community's John Bell at Festival of Homiletics](#)

ON GOING NEWS

CONFERENCE HISTORY BOOK - SECOND PRINTING

A limited number of "And are we yet Alive?" A History of the Northwest Texas Conference of The United Methodist Church have been printed and are available at the Conference Service Center. If you missed your chance the first time, you can order one. Price is \$38.98 and that includes shipping and handling. You can

send your check, made payable to Northwest Texas Conference, to Conference Service Center, 1415 Ave M, Lubbock, TX 79401-3939. Your copy will be shipped to you.

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