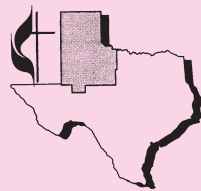


NORTHWEST TEXAS CONFERENCE REVIEW



an edition of
the United Methodist Reporter

Two Sections, Section A • 073000 • Volume 152 • Number 52 • May 5, 2006

INSIDE

Page A-4

***TTU Wesley students work in New Orleans to repair damage from hurricanes**

***TTU Wesley Staff position open**

Page A-5

***Project Light uses computers for ESL training**

***Changes in store for 2006 NWTX Annual Conference**

Page A-8

***Butman Camp sponsors May 20 Open House**

***St. Mark's Midland holds free garage sale**

***May workshops offer opportunities**

***Around the Conference**

Annual subscription fee is \$15. Mail name, address, & check made out to "Northwest Texas Annual Conference" to: **Rosemary Prumer, UMR Subscriptions, 1415 Ave. M, Lubbock, TX 79401-3939.**

Bishop Janice Riggle Huie to be conference preacher

HOUSTON. Janice Riggle Huie serves as bishop of the Texas Annual Conference of The United Methodist Church, having been assigned there in September, 2004. The Texas Annual Conference is composed of 713 congregations and 290,855 members spread throughout East Texas. It includes Houston, Galveston, Beaumont, Texarkana, Longview, Tyler, and College Station.



Bishop Janice Riggle Huie will be the 2006 Northwest Texas Annual Conference preacher. She will preach at both the Thursday and Friday 7:30 p.m. worship services. The Friday 7:30 p.m. worship will be the Ordination Service.

at numerous annual conferences and seminaries and led retreats for both pastors and

laity in the area of leadership and spiritual formation. She has taught in the Mentor Program at Perkins School of Theology, served as Adjunct Faculty for the Doctor of Ministry Program at Austin Presbyterian School of Theology, and served as Churchwoman-in-Residence at Candler School of Theology. She was co-chair of the International Clergywomen's Consultation in 1995, has authored articles in preaching and spirituality, and received the Bandy Distinguished Preacher Award from Emory University in 1991. She completed her term as President of the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry shortly after moving to Houston in August 2004.

After graduating with honors from the University of



Texas in Austin in 1969, Bishop Huie went to Perkins School of Theology at Southern Methodist University in Dallas, earning a Master of Theology and receiving both the Flinn Award as outstanding senior and the DeJernette Award in homiletics. In 1989 she was awarded a Doctor of Ministry degree from Candler School of Theology at Emory University in Atlanta, where (continued--see "NWTX..." p. A-5)

Since Bishop Huie's assignment there, the Texas Annual Conference has adopted a bold new missional strategy aimed at making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. The primary priorities are as follows: Congregational Excellence (new church starts and re-vitalization of existing congregations), Clergy Excellence (recruiting gifted young pastors and supporting and training current pastors) and a Re-aligned Missional Structure.

In connection with her Episcopal assignment she serves on the Board of Trustees of The Methodist Hospital, Southwestern University, Wiley College and Lon Morris College as well as The Texas Methodist Foundation. Bishop Huie is serving as President Designate of the Council of Bishops. She will assume the presidency of the Council in May, 2006, and serve for a two-year term.

A noted speaker and experienced leader, she has preached

Volunteer labor gives relief in midst of devastation

by **Beckie Adams**
NWTX Disaster Relief,
Volunteer Coordinator

The destruction from recent wildfires can leave lives in disarray for some time. Add to that the burden of advancing age or ill health and the obstacles can seem insurmountable.

This has been true for many of the cattlemen in the Texas panhandle with livestock to be moved from affected pasture land, miles of damaged fencing to be rolled up and those same miles of

fencing to be rebuilt.

One of these cattlemen, **Weldon Carter**, 78 years of

age, was contacted early in April, shortly after the initial (continued--see "Many..." p. A-5)



Although this house was only serving as storage, the destruction seen here is a poignant reminder of the destruction of mementoes from the past.

Bishop D. Max Whitfield
Northwest Texas/New Mexico Area

Eddie Allsup
Conference Director of Mission & Administration
allsup@nwtxconf.org

Jo Anna Willis
Northwest Texas Conference Edition Editor
jwillis@nwtxconf.org

Northwest Texas Conference Center
1415 Avenue M, Lubbock, TX 79401-3939
(806) 762-0201 Fax (806) 762-

The United Methodist Reporter (USPS 954-500) is published weekly by UMR Communications, 1221 Profit Drive, Dallas, Texas 75247-3919. Periodicals postage paid at Dallas, Texas, and additional mailing offices. Postmaster: Send address changes to The United Methodist Reporter, PO Box 660275, Dallas, Texas 75266-0275.

TTU Wesley students work in New Orleans to help repair damage to homes/lives

Abbie Arellano
TTU Wesley Foundation
Denman Intern

I recently led a group of eight students to Louisiana for a week, and during this trip we saw unspeakable loss and met people with amazing hope for their future.

We stayed in a suburb of New Orleans at Kenner UMC with three other groups of college and high school students from Colorado, Florida, and Wisconsin.

We traveled daily around the New Orleans area to work on houses. I was not prepared for the devastation that was there. Most of our work involved demolition, and we divided our group into two work teams.



Throughout the week, we worked on four houses removing flooring, drywall, ceilings, and cabinets. We basically left the shells of the houses to be rebuilt at a later date.

The most challenging house that our group worked on still had all of its contents. The Guerra's lived next to a lake and a canal, so water came at their house from all sides and completely flooded their home. With the flood waters came dirt, which settled in their home as mud. We had to dig through the contents of the bedroom and shovel out the mud. After we got most of it cleared, we pulled up the carpet and took out the drywall. We continued this process throughout the bedroom, bathroom, and

closet. We were the third team to work on their house, and during our day of work, we were only able to complete one corner of the house. The Guerra family now lives in Mississippi, and they drive back to their home whenever a work team can come out and help them.

We had the opportunity, during our week in Louisiana, to meet many of the members of the church where we were staying. We attended worship with them on Sunday and many stopped by to visit throughout the week. We had a couple of people bring dessert and others who stopped to visit after their choir rehearsal. They wanted to tell us their stories, so that

while others were experiencing anger. We were unprepared for the emotional damage that this storm brought,

Many of the people we talked with want to be there. The main thing that they wanted us to share, as we returned

home, was that they are still there. New Orleans is their home, and they want to rebuild.



(Photos courtesy of Abbie Arellano, TTU Wesley Foundation.)

but through our trip we are able to continue to share their stories.

One thing that must not be forgotten is that help is needed. The optimistic view is that rebuilding will be completed in seven to ten years. Most people realize that 15 to 20 years is a more accurate time frame. With the hurricane season right around the corner, I ask that you keep these people in your prayers.



TEXAS TECH WESLEY FOUNDATION STAFF POSITION OPEN

Position Opening: Assistant Director of Development for the Wesley Foundation at Texas Tech. Our vital collegiate ministry is looking for an energetic person to direct events necessary to grow support for our ministry to the Texas Tech campus. An outgoing personality with both creativity and organizational skills is central to the job duties.

While building connections with the larger Wesley community is the most important, the person also guides Wesley publicity, along with other tasks necessary for development. Nurturing our connection with conference churches is also crucial to provide the synergistic relationship between campus and the local church.

Please direct inquiries or resumes before June 1 to: Greg Haseloff, 2420 15th Street, Lubbock, TX 79401; 806.762.8749; greg@ttuwesley.org.

Project Light uses computers to facilitate ESL training in NWTX churches

The Hispanic/Latino Committee of the Northwest Texas Conference of The United Methodist Church sponsored English as a Second Language training April 7 & 8 at First UMC Big Spring.

Churches from around the NWTX & New Mexico Conferences attended and were trained in the procedures used by *Project Light*. *Project Light* says that there are 40 words in the English Language that make up 40% of the language.

A program named "**The Light is Coming**," was developed by The Christian Literacy Associates, and teaches phonics, vocabulary, comprehension, writing and spelling.

The program is Bible based with 107 of the 114 lessons sharing stories of Jesus Christ.

The 107 lessons offer a scripture lesson that is in a limited vocabulary Bible, "The New Life Translation."



Back Row (L-R): Orby Brooks Coordinator, Margarita Robles, Emma Lou Savage (Project Light), Carla Valdez, Mary Wright, Jackie Henry, Joe Reeder, Barbara Gray (Project Light), Dr. Jorge Ochoa (NWTX Conf), Rev. Al Martin, and Pastor Agustin Ypina. **Front Row:** Mary Jo Sanders, Willie Gaumond, Esther Moses, Colleen Slaughter, Ginger Elliott, Gladys Ochoa. (Not shown Leonel Enriquez, Jim Gray (Project Light).)

New Life is written in 850 words in the New Testament and has been translated into Spanish.

A second program named "**Zero to Five**" was developed by the U.S. Department of Education, consists of visual material that progressively introduces the student to vocabulary, language prin-

ciples, concepts and basic sentence structure.

All of the lessons are done with a computer, and all have a lesson plan already developed with the purpose of the lesson, what the lesson is teaching, questions to ask the student and the scripture to read as part of the lesson.

Anyone can be a tutor. If

you can turn on a computer, have a good reading ability, love of people, and have Jesus Christ in your heart we need you. If your church or civic origination would be interested in offering *Project Light* in your community contact the Conference office.

Project Light Centers are currently set up in Alpine, Big Spring, Dumas, Lamesa, and Lubbock, and we will be adding McAllen in May.



Agustin Ypina works to learn the program for Project Light.

(Pictures courtesy Jorge Ochoa & Project Light.)

Several changes in store for 2006 Annual Conference

There are a couple of changes regarding Annual Conference that we want everyone to be aware of. First, to honor Bishop Whitfield's commitment to not have district meetings involving a lot of travel, all four District Conferences will be held during Annual Conference. These District Conferences will be held Thursday, June 8th, at 4:00 PM at First United Methodist Church in Midland. At these conferences the district officials will be elected, the district budget will be approved, and any other district business will be conducted.

The second change involves the method of preparing delegates for Annual Conference. Previously the pre-Annual Conference meetings were held in conjunction with the District Conferences. This year we are experimenting with doing the Pre-Annual Conference briefing by sending a CD with a video presentation about conference along with the Pre-Conference reports.

These CDs will be sent to every annual conference member and alternate. This experiment is being done at the initiative of the Annual Conference Communications Committee with the support of Bishop Whitfield and the Cabinet. We would appreciate your feedback to this way of communicating. If you have any questions please address them to your District Superintendent or Eddie Allsup at: 806-762-0201x16, allsup@nwtxconf.org.

NWTX Conference for 2006 to be June 7-10

(continued from page A-1)

she focused on homiletics and liturgy.

Janice Riggle Huie was born December 15, 1946, in Beeville, Texas. She and her husband Bob were married in 1970. Bob is a United Methodist pastoral counselor, L.M.P.T. and A.A.P.C. Fellow, and works for the Krist Samaritan Center in Houston. Their son Matthew is married to Shambryn Wilson Huie and they have a daughter, Abigail Reagan Huie, and a son, David Riley Huie. The younger Huie family lives in Beeville, Texas, where Matt operates the family farm and Shambryn is Vice president at State Bank and Trust.

Bob and Janice enjoy camping and snow skiing with their children and grandchildren.

Note: The Northwest Texas Annual Conference will be at First UMC Midland, Wednesday, June 7, through Saturday, June 10.

Many willing hands give assistance, make needed repairs

(continued from p. A-1)

onslaught of devastation. When asked if he would like some assistance with the daunting task of repairing his fences, he readily replied that he would, adding, "I sure wasn't looking forward to doing this by myself."

Thanks to many willing hands, he did not have to. Not only were those fences rebuilt by a team from Plano, Texas, but assistance was given to at least five other families in that area.

Even those who are physically able to accomplish recovery efforts for themselves at times need help. When one is attempting this feat while working a full time job, the tasks can seem to go on interminably. One's life, normalcy if you will, is put on hold. Sherman Alder, one such gentleman we spoke with, had finally taken a day

off from his job to clean up the remains of his house, completely destroyed, and his barn, severely damaged. At least the power company had been able to restore the use of his well so they could have water on site. A horse trailer was serving as temporary on site shelter.

Since many of the rural homes are either uninsured or underinsured, the wildfire devastation is even more difficult for the victims to deal with. Donations and volunteer labor is vital in helping these people get back to their daily lives.

The danger from wildfires is still a threat, additional acreage having burned even as the above described work was being done. The initial 1,000,000 or so acres were increased by 40,000 the first week in April and an additional 22,000 on April 11.

As we proceed with rebuilding efforts, housing construction will be undertaken in affected areas. New needs are revealed daily it seems.

Those who would like to assist in relief of this disaster by supplying volunteer labor can contact Beckie Adams (Volunteer Coordinator) at bribeck@arn.net or 806-878-3011.

If you desire to make a monetary donation, it can be sent to the Northwest Texas Conference Treasurer at 1415 Ave. M, Lubbock, TX 79401, labeled "Disaster Relief Fund".

Those with donations of supplies (hay, fencing materials, building materials, equipment, etc.) can contact Amarillo District United Methodist Church office by emailing: umcamaofs@nts-online.net or by calling 806-376-7271.

Butman Methodist Camp**Open House**

May 20, 2006

1:00 pm ~ 5:00 pm

Featuring**“The Rock” Climbing Wall****Swimming Pool****Slip ‘n’ Slide****Hiking Trails****Camp Store**

This is a great opportunity

for new campers to visit before camp!

Early Bird Registration for all camps is May 15, 2006, but if you bring your registration forms to the Open House, we will honor the Early Bird Registration Fee at that event.

around the conference**Congratulations**

*Congratulations to Bob & Janice Karlin on the birth of their first grandchild, Addison Belle Coles, April 17, 8 lb. 7 oz., born to daughter Laura and son-in-law Calvin Coles. Rev. Karlin is pastor at Eula UMC.

*Congratulations to Shane and Jill Brue, pastor at St. James UMC, Abilene, on the birth of their first daughter, Megan Elisabeth Brue, 9 lb. 3 oz., 21 inches long, born on April 25. She is welcomed at home by brothers, Benjamin, Jacob, Ryan and Micah.

Stewardship news

Stewardship and Giving websites for you to visit: <http://www.gbod.org/stewardship/> and <http://www.umcgiving.org/>.

Conference Leaders, how is our conference doing in giving to our shared ministries? Visit this website to see where the heart of our conference is: http://umconline.org/nwtumc/cf_stmt.php.--submitted by Mark Pittman

Position open

Director of Music Ministries Position Available: Full time, Aldersgate UMC, 1741 Sayles, Abilene. Bachelor's Degree preferred; must be able to direct all styles of music, work with staff as a team, direct vocal choirs, (adult, youth, & children), direct handbell choirs, and minister through the ensembles and the music. Job Description and Salary information available by contacting Derrell Patterson, pastor, 325-672-7893.

Sympathy

*Sympathy is extended to Shirley Stice and family on the death of her mother, Laura Mayberry. Mrs. Mayberry died Saturday morning, April 15, in Shamrock, TX. Services were held Monday, April 17, at the First Baptist Church in Shamrock, TX. Shirley's husband, Lloyd, is the pastor of Post UMC.

*Sympathy is extended to Max Browning and family on the death of his mother, Burnese. Mrs. Browning died Wednesday, April 19, at the age of 90. Services were held Saturday, April 22, at Pleasant Valley UMC in Amarillo. Rev. Browning is a retired member of the Conference.

Stewardship Scripture: Proverbs 19:17**St. Mark's Midland holds 'free' garage sale**

On Friday, March 24, 2006, St. Mark's UMC in Midland opened its doors to the first annual FREE GARAGE SALE. Working with Casa de Amigos in Midland, St. Mark's invited clients of the outreach facility to a free garage sale.

Over 100 people attended and had a good time pouring over furniture, household items, and clothing donated by the members of St. Mark's. Each person also received a bottle of water with a scripture on it as a parting gift and a flyer giving information about St. Mark's.

Virginia Borland, Outreach

Chair, said she considered this a successful outreach project.

“We all worked hard and enjoyed meeting the people who



Virginia Borland, right, Outreach Chair for St. Mark's UMC Midland, helps a customer.



Customers are excited about the amount and quality of goods offered. (Pictures courtesy Jorge Ochoa and Stm Mark's UMC Midland.)

attended.”

Chris Shaw, a member of St. Mark's and a staff person at Casa de Amigos, handed out the invitations to members of her GED classes and to other clients. She also helped with Spanish interpretation at the garage sale.

The clients were excited when they saw the quality of goods and the fact that everything there was free. Karan Young, pastor, said, “This event was designed to be Grace in action.”

May workshops offer opportunities to learn something new

***Experiential Leadership Institute, Workshop for Effective Pastoring in the 21st Century.** May 14-19, at Mo Ranch, 2229 FM 1340, Hunt, TX. This week-long residential institute is designed to deepen your spiritual and relational maturity. It will help increase self-awareness of your own leadership style and the impact it has on others. A variety of elements are included including experience, reflection, assessment instruments, journaling, & theory. For registration call 800-460-4401, 830-238-4455 or email: program@moranch.com.

* **A Conflict Resolution**

Workshop will be held May 21 from 3 - 6 p.m. at St. Mark's UMC, 1701 N. Main, Midland, TX. Workshop Leader will be Dr. Shera J. Atkinson, Ph. D., LPC. The workshop will be Bible-based, Practical Application, and Action Plan. Registration Fee is \$15/person. Registration deadline is May, 13. For more information call 432-683-3339. You can register by sending your payment along with your name, address, and name of your church to St. Mark's, 1701 N. Main, Midland, TX 79701.

* * *
*AUSTIN, TEXAS –
Teacher, writer and seminarian

Greg Garrett will offer a **week-long class on writing for peace and justice** at the Ghost Ranch campus in Abiquiu, New Mexico, in late May. “Writing for Peace and Justice – Being a Voice for Change” will be held May 22-28. Details of the course (numbered W542) are at <http://ghostranch.org/catalog>. It can be accessed at the bottom right of the homepage in the “Writing” link. (Note: Please submit your nominations for the PEACE with JUSTICE AWARD. SEND to: Barbara B. Yarbrough, Peace with Justice Coordinator, 1601 East Hickory, Midland, Texas 79705-6904.)