

The Newsletter

May 2016

Memorial United Methodist Church

6100 Berkman Drive Austin TX 78723

Rev. Cynthia Kepler-Karrer - Pastor

**Feeding Northeast Austin, body, mind,
and spirit in the name of Jesus.**

Sunday Schedule

Sunday School 9:15-10:00 a.m.

Worship - 10:30 a.m.

Web site:

www.memorialumcaustin.com

Find us on Facebook at

Memorial United Methodist Church-Austin

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National Day of Prayer

May 5th



Mother's Day

May 8th



Pentecost

May 15th



Memorial Day

Observed May 30th

News from the Pews



Baptism



**Submitted by Billie Nixon
Membership Coordinator**

In Sympathy

Love and concert go to Bob and Norma Hauser regarding the sudden death of Norma's brother, Michael Byrd. Funeral services were held 3-15-2016 at 2pm at Beck Funeral Home in Pflugerville, TX.

To Don Morrison in the death of his friend, Lora Gean "Jessy" Janda. Visitation was held on 3-16-2016 and her funeral was 3-16-2016 at 11am at St. Paul's Lutheran Church.

To Sandra Davis in the death of her uncle, Charles Travis Cloud, age 70, of LaGrange, TX. His funeral was on Saturday 2-27-2016 in Smithville, TX. Charles is survived by his wife, Linda Cloud, 5 children and 3 grandchildren.

To the family of our long and faithful friend and member, Elizabeth (Rosenblad) Sanford, 86, who passed away March 28, 2016.

She was born in Taylor, TX, attended school in Thrall, TX, and attended Business school in Austin. She worked at Texas Workers Compensation Assigned Risk Pool and retired after 41 years with the pool.

She loved people, belonged to many clubs, was faithful to Memorial teaching Sunday school, worked with youth groups, ladies U.M.W. and other church activities. She was a member of the Clowns Unit with Ladies Shrine Organization.

She is survived by one sister, one brother, two daughters; Connie Leonard of Manor, TX, Sally Webster of Round Rock, TX, three grandchildren and five great grandchildren.

Visitation was March 30, 2016 from 6-8pm. Funeral services were held at 10am Thursday March 31, 2016 and internment followed at Cook-Walden Pflugerville, Tx.

We at Memorial do care and pray for peace and comfort for each of you.

Sunday April 17, 2016 was a very happy day. Steve and Kathy Reinhart's daughter and son-in-law, Pat and Michelle Rehm, baptized their son, Nolan Patrick Rehm. Nolan was born October 15, 2015. We always feel special when we are a part of this service.

Congratulations and may God guard, guide and bless each of you on this new journey

John and Billie Nixon are also excited about the Baptism of their oldest grandchild, Jeremy and wife Keri Mohler, who baptized their 4 children at one time, on Palm Sunday March 20, 2016 at Bethany U.M.C,

Congregational Notes

Cleo Wilson would love to have visitors from the congregation. If you plan to go see her, please call the church office to get her schedule.

Thank you! Thank you!

The church received word from Don Morrison thanking each of you for your concern in the death of his friend Lora Janda. A thoughtful act or a kind word may pass in a moment but the warmth and care behind it stay in the heart forever.

Thank You, Don Morrison



New Arrivals

Jessica Favela-Clayton & Sergio have a new son, Romeo, weighing 8 lbs 7 oz, 21” long at birth, born February 24, 2016. Their older son, Sebastian, seems to be excited to help and showed him off on Easter Sunday.

Katherine Eaker recently celebrated the birth of her 11th great grandchild! Ava Michelle Ernst, was born on February 26, 2016. She weighed 7 lbs, 12 oz, and was 20” long. She is the first child of Travis and Ashley Dwyer Ernst of Frisco, TX, and the 11th grandchild of Jim and Judy Eaker Dwyer of Frankston, Tx.

Alberta Shelton reported that her grandson, Michael Shelton, in California blessed her with a great grand-daughter, Isabella, born March 26, 2016 weighing 7 lbs. 11 oz. Alberta has 12 grandchildren and 8 great-grandchildren.



Weddings

Andrew Friedrich and Mindy McDonagh were married in Dripping Springs on February 19th. Mindy grew up in San Antonio and Drew is a long-time Austinite. Drew is the son of Judy and Richard Friedrich and the grandson of Jane Friedrich and the late Logan Friedrich. Drew’s Eagle Scout project was the rose garden at Memorial. Both Drew and Mindy are graduates of the University of Texas.



Honors

Katherine Eaker’s great granddaughter, Avery Madison Dwyer, daughter of Robert Boyd and Sarah Dwyer, and granddaughter of Jim and Judy Eaker Dwyer, was recently honored by the Azalea Chapter of the National Charity League in Katy, TX. A dinner and dance was held on February 28, 2016 at the Marriott Hotel in Sugar Land, TX honoring the 16 graduating Seniors of the Azalea Chapter. The National Charity League is a non-profit organization of mothers and daughters who join together by performing community service. The goal is to foster a sense of community responsibility in the girls as well as to strengthen the mother-daughter relationship. The daughters participate in a six-year program of philanthropic work, educational activities, and cultural events. Avery is 17 years old and graduated high school in January 2016. She is currently attending Texas A&M University.



We Want to Honor the Graduates

Please let the church office know who is graduating from high school or college this year as we want to honor them during worship one Sunday.

You can email information to:

secretary@memorialumcaustin.com

or call the church office (512) 452- 5796

CALENDAR

Sunday, May 1

8:30 am - Pancake Breakfast - Gym
9:15 am - Sunday School for all ages
10:30 am - Worship Service

Monday, May 2

6:30 am - Morning Prayer -Chapel
6:00 pm - Girl Scouts—Gym area
6:30 pm - Austin Harmony— Choir room
7:00 pm - Boy Scouts -Gym area

Tuesday, May 3

9:00 am - ESL classes— Parlor
9:30 am - Staff meeting
9:30 am - BIF - Pearce

Wednesday, May 4

10:00 am - Wesley School Chapel
7:00 pm - Choir Rehearsal—Choir room

Thursday, May 5

9:00 am - ESL classes— Parlor

Friday, May 6

8:00 am - 3:00 pm - TMVA - Parlor

Saturday, May 7

Sunday, May 8 Mother's Day

9:15 am - Sunday School for all ages
10:30 am - Worship Service

Monday, May 9

6:30 am - Morning Prayer -Chapel
6:00 pm - Girl Scouts - Gym area
6:30 pm - Austin Harmony— Choir room
7:00 pm - Boy Scouts - Gym area

Tuesday, May 10

9:00 am - ESL classes - Parlor
9:30 am - Staff Meeting
6:00 pm - Wesley Board - Pearce

Wednesday, May 11

10:00 am - Wesley School Chapel
7:00 pm - Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, May 12

9:00 am - Last Day of ESL classes -Parlor
1:00 pm - D.A.S. - Pearce
7:00 pm - Austin Ukulele Society - Gym

Friday, May 13

Saturday, May 14

9:00 am WPNA
10:00 am Gym/FHL

Sunday, May 15 Pentecost

9:15 am - Sunday School for all ages
10:30 am - Worship Service

Monday, May 16

6:30 am - Morning Prayer -Chapel
6:00 pm - Girl Scouts - Gym area
6:30 pm - Austin Harmony— Choir room
7:00 pm - Boy Scouts - Gym area

Tuesday, May 17

9:30 am - Staff Meeting
9:00 am - Honeybees - Pearce
6:00 pm - NAMI Support - Pearce

Wednesday, May 18

10:00 am - Wesley School Chapel
7:00 pm - Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, May 19

10:00 am - Reading and Library
7:00 pm - Bread Church - Gym

Friday, May 20

Saturday, May 21

Sunday, May 22

9:15 am - Sunday School for all ages
10:30 am - Worship Service

Monday, May 23

6:30 am - Morning Prayer -Chapel
6:00 pm - Girl Scouts - Gym area

CALENDAR

CONTINUED

6:30 pm - Austin Harmony— Choir room

7:00 pm - Boy Scouts - Gym area

Tuesday, May 24

9:30 am - Staff Meeting

9:00 am - Honeybees - Pearce

Wednesday, May 25

10:00 am - Wesley School Chapel

7:00 pm - Choir Rehearsal—Choir room

Thursday, May 26

4:00 pm– 8:00 pm - I35 Project - Gym

Friday, May 27

Saturday, May 28

Sunday, May 29

9:15 am - Sunday School for all ages

10:30 am - Worship Service

Monday, May 30 Memorial Day

Tuesday, May 31

9:30 am - Staff Meeting

9:00 am - Honeybees - Pearce



Birthdays

April

2nd Stephanie Shelton

3rd Zora Mae Hise

5th Virginia Smith

7th David Paul Teaney

Christina Williams

9th John Shelton

13th Michael Shelton



Birthdays Cont.

17th Jessica McFarland

Sarah Shelton

18th Jennifer Eddleman

Debbie Schmidt Parsley

19th William Dennig

21st Russell Moore

22nd Betty Moore

23rd Laura Rhoades Smith

24th Lauren Michele Dennig

Glenda Houston

27th Lela Barker

Jacob Shelton

30th Jane Friedrich

May

1st Jennifer Smith

5th Sheryl Cheatham

Jessica Shelton Williams

7th Hannah Egbert

11th Hale Roy Bills

Hunter Eddie Bills

14th Greg Mikeska

16th Andrew Friedrich

Gary Alan Gray

17th James Leavelle

18th Norma Jones

19th Mary Linda Gray

25th Lisa Schmidt Mosley

Vicky Schmidt Mosley

26th Don Morrison

28th Emily Anne Egbert

29th Judy Friedrich

31th Margaret Adams

Pastor's Corner



*“God is our refuge and strength,
a very present help in trouble.
Therefore we will not fear, though the earth
should change,
though the mountains shake in the heart of the
sea;
though its waters roar and foam,
though the mountains tremble with its tumult.”*
Psalm 46:1-3

Sometimes it feels like everything is changing. Oh wait—it ALWAYS feels like everything is changing...it’s just that sometimes it feels quicker than usual!

I saw a tip jar in a restaurant that had the same sign as the jar in the picture above, and I laughed. I thought about what change people wanted to leave behind—and what it might mean to leave change behind. Does that mean you want to go back? Or does that mean you’re willing to go forward into an unknown future (which would, of course, imply yet more change)?

Psalm 46 is one of my favorites, probably because in college, I found a musical adaptation which was easy for me to remember and sing over and over again. That was one of my favorite ways to let scripture sink down into my soul—by singing it. (You can listen to the song here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TBXTPHeHkxY>)

I found myself singing it the other day and read through the whole psalm again. As I did, I realized that change isn’t just something that happens to us because the world is somehow disintegrating (though it feels like that sometimes)—change

happens because that’s the way God made the world. People change...creation changes. But we can trust God even in the midst of change!

What changes in your life do you fear? Can you leave the fear behind?

What changes in your life do you embrace? Can you recognize God in the midst of them?

I am grateful that it looks like I will not be experiencing a change this year. For the very first time in my life, it looks like I will get a chance to live in the same house, the same place beyond five years. This staying the same makes me HAPPY! And I also get to move through changes in the church and the neighborhood with you, which makes me happy too.

Our General Conference coming up may bring change to the church as well. That can be very small changes that may not seem to have much effect on our daily life together. Or they may be big changes that have everyone on edge as we try to figure out how to work with them. They may be changes that make us happy. They may be changes that make us angry. Or it may be that there are places where we want change—and either get it or don’t. It is a time of uncertainty. But we can be certain that God is and will always be our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Amen.

Cynthia Kepler-Harrer



Bread Church

May 19th @7 PM

In the gym kitchen



Once every 4 years, United Methodists from around the world get together to make decisions about our structure, rules and governance. The group consists of 50% clergy and 50% lay people from all of the annual conferences, proportional to the membership of the conference.

They will gather in Portland, Oregon, from May 9-May 20. You can look at legislation and follow news releases at: <http://www.umc.org/topics/general-conference-2016>

or find them on facebook at “United Methodist General Conference”!

But most of all, you can pray, specifically for the delegates attending from Rio Texas: Rev. Laura Merrill, Rev. Reuben Saenz, Jr., Abel Vega, Teresa Keese, Rev. Teresa Welborn, Rev. Eradio Valverde, Rev. Carl Rohlfs, Ralph Thompson, Carol Loeb, and Jay Brim. Alternates are: Rev. Russell Miller, Rev. Austin Frederick, Jr., Rev. Tom Diviney, Rev. Paul Escamilla, Rev. Edgar Avitia, Aislin Diviney, Rachel Wright, Byrd Bonner, Larry Harrison and Cindy Johnson.

In speaking with several of these delegates, most of the prayers are for the ability to discern God’s will in the midst of big decisions and for stamina to make it through the 12 days!



Walk to Emmaus

Upcoming dates

Women’s Walk, May 5-8

Women’s Walk , May 12-15

Men’s Walk, August 25-28

Contact Church Office for more information:

512-452-5796

secretary@memorialumcaustin.com

MONTHLY PANCAKE BREAKFAST



Come join your church family for a pancake breakfast on May 1 at 8:30 AM in the gym.

Son Days Camp

June 27-July 1

For kids entering 3rd-5th grades

at Cross Roads Retreat

sponsored by the Capital District UMC

The Newsletter

National Day of Prayer

May 5th

Heavenly Father,

We come to You in the Name that is above every name—Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior. Our hearts cry out to You.

Knowing that You are a prayer-answering, faithful God—the One we trust in times like these—we ask that You renew our spirits, revive our churches, and heal our land.

We repent of our sins and ask for Your grace and power to save us. Hear our cry, oh God, and pour out Your Spirit upon us that we may walk in obedience to Your Word.

We are desperate for Your tender mercies. We are broken and humbled before You.

Forgive us, and in the power of Your great love, lift us up to live in Your righteousness.

We pray for our beloved nation. May we repent and return to You and be a light to the nations. And we pray for our leaders and ask that You give them wisdom and faith to follow You.

Preserve and protect us, for You are our refuge and only hope.

Deliver us from all fears except to fear You, and may we courageously stand in the Truth that sets us free.

We pray with expectant faith and grateful hearts.

In Jesus' name, our Savior. Amen.

—2015 National Prayer by Dr. Jack Graham



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