

The Newsletter

August/ September

2015

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

Email:

secretary@memorialumcaustin.com

Church Office Hours

Monday - Friday: 8:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Monday, Thursday, and Friday

12:30 pm-3:00 pm

Phone: 512. 452.5796

Fax: 512.450.0323

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BACK TO SCHOOL PROJECTS



Sunday

September 6th



**Y'ALL COME SUNDAY
September 13**

Events



September 6

(Labor Day Weekend)

Labor Day Sunday at Memorial has become a time of celebrating and remembering others. We will gather together for a brief worship service, and then we move into on-site projects.

- Welcome Back bags for Harris Elementary teachers
- Health Kits for the homeless and UMCOR
- Thank you gifts for our Wesley staff
- Treat trays for the Fire Department on Berkman
- Assembling freezer bags for Crock-pot dinners for people recovering from illness/surgery or following a death.
- Re-signing areas of the church and praying for the ministries in those areas.

Y'ALL COME SUNDAY



September 13th

Invite your friends and neighbors to come to church and join in the fun!

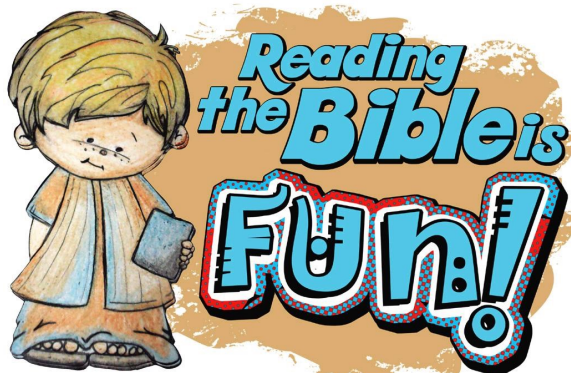
Lunch served in the gym after the 10:30 service.

Bring a dish to share and the BBQ, bread and drinks will be provided.



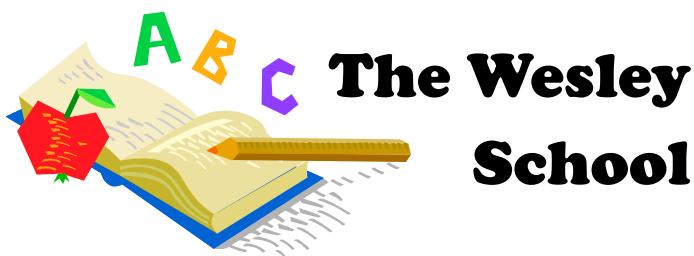
Education Sunday

September 27th



Third Grades Bibles

The church will be presenting Bibles to 3rd graders on September 27th, so we need to know who all should get one. If you know a 3rd grader connected to our church, please let the church office know so we can order enough Bibles. Also, if you know an older child who missed out on the opportunity in the past, let us know because we want to make sure every child gets a Bible. You can email names to the church office at secretary@memorialumcaustin.com.



On September 27th, we will be honoring all of the Wesley School Teachers and Staff during worship. We also hope to have a delightful performance from the students of some of the songs they learn in chapel with Pastor Cynthia.

Chapel with the Wesley students is every Wednesday at 10:00 AM in the sanctuary. Pastor Cynthia reads a book and connects it to the Bible. Some of the books that will be shared will come from the United Methodist Women's Reading Program for Children.



School starts back August 24th with teachers starting even earlier. Our church provided breakfast for the teachers on August 18th. Thank you to all the volunteers who made casseroles, shopped or served.



Harris School Supplies Needed

Please bring these items and place them in the box in the narthex or make a gift for the children during the month of August.

- Supply box (cigar type)
- Crayons, large, 8 colors and/or regular size
- Scissors, round point and/or regular scissors
- First Grade paper, 1" with 1/2" broken lines
- Second Grade paper, 1" with 1/4" broken lines
- Ruler, 12" metric and conventional
- Primary pencil and No. 2's Pencils, red lead
- Ballpoint pen, blue or black ink
- Erasers
- Wirebound notebooks
- Notebook binder
- Paper for binder - 5/16" ruled
- Dividers for binder
- Glue, white liquid, 8 oz.

News from the Pews



In Sympathy

Love and concern go to the following due to a death in their families:

To Laurie Strawbridge, our church secretary, in the death of her uncle, Raleigh McGougan, age 72, of Pensacola, Florida. Raleigh died on June 26, 2015, after a lengthy illness. Funeral services were in Pensacola on July 2, 2015. Laurie's mother and Raleigh's twin sister, Rachel Strawbridge, lives in Santa Rosa Beach, Florida with her husband, Ollie.

To Herb and Jan Purtle in the death of Herb's sister, Elizabeth Akins, of New Boston, Texas, who died on July 17th, 2015. She was living in the critical care unit in Texarkana, TX at the time of her death.

Memorial services were held at New Boston UMC and burial was in Memorial Gardens at Nash, TX. Elizabeth was preceded in death by her husband and survived by two children, three grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

To Don and Gail Mohler in the death of Don's mother, Mary Mohler Smith, who died July 30, 2015 in Katy, TX.

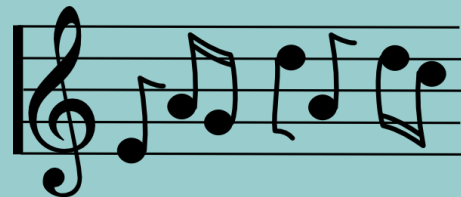
Graveside services for Mary were held in Killeen, TX on Monday, August 3, 2015 with a large crowd of relatives and friends attending.

Don and Gail were faithful members of Memorial, raising their three children in this church where they were loved and nurtured for decades. Recently they transferred their membership to Bethany UMC and will soon change their mailing address to Leander because they have sold their home and are moving.



Recently it was announced that Dorothy Johnson, who has led a Women's Bible Study class at Memorial for 25 years, has decided to "retire." We appreciate her dedication to the study of God's Word – not only the Bible Study, but also for her many years of dedicated service to visiting hospitals and homebound members and counseling. Thank you Dorothy for sharing your time and talents with this grateful congregation. We are the ones who benefited from your gifts.

*Submitted by Billie Nixon,
Membership Coordinator*



Wednesday Rehearsals

Handbells @ 6:00 pm

Choir @ 7:00 pm

August 12th the regular schedule resumed with handbells rehearsing at 6:00 PM and the choir rehearsing at 7:00 PM

We appreciate all the hard work that our choir director, choir members, ringers and accompanist put in every week to bring us an inspiring story through song. It adds so much to our worship time.

CALENDAR

Monday, August 17

- 6:15 am - Morning Prayer -Chapel
- 6:00 pm - Girl Scouts –Gym area
- 7:00 pm - Austin Harmony– Choir room
- 7:30 pm - Boy Scouts -Gym area

Tuesday, August 18

- 7:30 am - Serving Breakfast to Harris Teachers
- 9:30 am - Staff Meeting
- 9:30 am - Honeybees Crafting Group

Wednesday, August 19

- 6:00 pm - Handbell Rehearsal
- 7:00 pm - Choir Rehearsal

Sunday, August 23

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

Monday, August 24 (First Day of School AISD)

- 6:15 am - Morning Prayer -Chapel
- 6:00 pm - Girl Scouts– Gym area
- 7:00 pm - Austin Harmony– Choir room
- 7:30 pm - Boy Scouts -Gym area

Tuesday, August 25

- 9:30 am - Staff Meeting
- 9:30 am - Honeybees Crafting Group

Wednesday, August 26

- 6:00 pm - Handbell Rehearsal
- 7:00 pm - Choir Rehearsal

Sunday August 30 Apportionment Sunday

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

Monday, August 31

- 6:15 am - Morning Prayer -Chapel
- 6:00 pm - Girl Scouts—Gym area

7:00 pm - Austin Harmony– Choir room

7:30 pm - Boy Scouts -Gym area

Tuesday, September 1

- 9:30 am - Staff meeting
- 9:30 am - BIF (Bible Information Fellowship
United Methodist Women

Wednesday, September 2

- 6:00 pm - Handell Choir Rehearsal –Choir
- 7:00 pm - Choir Rehearsal—Choir room

Thursday, September 3

Friday September 4

Saturday September 5

Sunday, September 6 Faith Labors Sunday

- 8:30 am - UMW Pancake Breakfast –gym
- 9:15 am - Sunday School for all ages
- 10:30 am - Worship Service/Faith Labor Projects

Monday, September 7– Labor Day Observed

Office closed

6:15 am - Morning Prayer -Chapel

Tuesday, September 8

- 9:30 am - Staff meeting
- 9:30 am - Honeybees Women's Crafting Group
- 7:00 pm - Wesley Board –Pearce

Wednesday, September 9

- 10: 00 am - Wesley School Chapel
- 6:00 pm - Handell Choir Rehearsal –Choir
- 7:00 pm - Choir Rehearsal—Choir room
- 7:00 pm - UMW Reading and Library group

Thursday, September 10

7:00 pm - Austin Ukulele Society– Gym

Friday, September 11

Saturday, September 12

- 10:00 am - Windsor Park Neighborhood
Association Meeting—Gym

Sunday, September 13—Y'all Come Sunday

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

CALENDAR

CONTINUED

11:30 am - Trustees –Pearce

11:30 am - BBQ lunch in the gym

Monday, September 14

6:15 am - Morning Prayer -Chapel

6:00 pm - Girl Scouts—Gym area

6:30 pm - Church Council –Pearce

7:00 pm - Austin Harmony– Choir room

7:30 pm - Boy Scouts -Gym area

Tuesday, September 15

9:30 am - Staff Meeting

9:30 am - Honeybees UMW crafting group

Wednesday, September 16

6:00 pm - Handbell Rehearsal

7:00 pm - Choir Rehearsal

Sunday, September 20 Memorial for Christ

9:15 am - Sunday School for all ages

10:30 am - Worship Service

1:00 pm - Youth Free Store Project

Monday, September 21

6:15 am - Morning Prayer -Chapel

6:00 pm - Girl Scouts -Gym area

7:00 pm - Austin Harmony– Choir room

7:30 pm - Boy Scouts -Gym area

Tuesday, September 22

9:30 am - Staff Meeting

Wednesday, September 23

6:00 pm - Handbell Rehearsal

7:00 pm - Choir Rehearsal

Sunday, September 27 Education Sunday

9:15 am - Sunday School for all ages

10:00 am - Reception for Wesley School Staff

10:30 am - Worship Service

Monday, September 28

6:15 am - Morning Prayer -Chapel

6:00 pm - Girl Scouts -Gym area

7:00 pm - Austin Harmony– Choir room

7:30 pm - Boy Scouts -Gym area

Tuesday, September 29

9:30 am - Staff Meeting

9:30 am - Honeybees Crafting Group

Wednesday, September 30

6:00 pm - Handbell Rehearsal

7:00 pm - Choir Rehearsal



Sermon

Series in Mark

“The Bigger Picture”

Worship at 10:30 AM

Building Use Calendar



Any group wanting to use a room at the church for a meeting needs to make

arrangements with the church office. You can make a one-time reservation or an on-going reservation.



Birthdays

August Birthdays

5 Doris Owens
6 Christian Ramos
8 Geraldine Boydston
10 Elizabeth Sanford
14 Taryn Stewart
15 Lonan Zia Gray
21 Janet Clark
22 Linda Rychlik
25 Karin Crumbling
26 Felicity Rodriquez
27 David Chandler
Patricia Ericson
Wallace Fowler
28 Kerry Schmidt McFarland
Everette Owens
Keith Schmidt
29 Vidette (Kiki) Corry
Michele Reinhart Rehm
30 Scooter Cheatham
31 Richard Friedrich
Julie Gonzales

September Birthdays

1st Geoffery Adams
Bob Johnson
John Alan Nixon
3rd Sandra Amundson
Nathaniel Rodriguez
Hannah Smith

4th Hildegarde Kothman Cook
7th Charles Waits
9th Billy Ray Capps
10th Bea Bailey
Kenneth Jourdan
David Rychlik
11th Kevin McFarland
12th Priscilla Bissett
Kristin Shelton
Taylor Elaine Stewart
13th Billie Talley
19th Pat Teaney
21st Afton Phoenix Petersen
22nd Diana Valastro
23rd Isabel Shelton
Irene Wright
24th Jason Petersen
25th Cameron Rodgers
Irene Shelton
26th Kathy Weimer Gray
27th Marsha Fowler



The Church Office will be closed
on Monday, September 7th.

Have a safe and happy Labor
Day!

Pastor's Corner

"If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all." (Romans 12:18)

We're coming up to the season where pastors begin to get a little twitchy—our annual charge conference is coming up (date to be announced soon).

I am especially twitchy this year because the year has not gone as well as I had hoped. We set some goals last year to increase our worship attendance and continue to be on sound financial footing. We also wanted to continue our relationships with community groups while encouraging and building up our own members. But our worship attendance is down, our finances are not as good, and I feel like I'm hit-and-miss with our community partners sometimes.

I tend to be a big-vision person, and since I recognized this, I've been trying to listen to people who know the steps to get to the "big visions" that I have. Our yearly goals are those big visions—increased worship attendance! Better offerings! More people reached with the love of Christ! But I'm recognizing more and more why those kinds of goals scare me. It's because reaching them is not in my control.

I can't control whether or not anybody comes to church except me. I can't control what anyone gives except me. I can't demand that others invite people to come and see God's love—I can only demand that of myself. But I still think that goals are good and necessary for us to try to meet.

So I have been pondering Romans 12, specifically verses 9-21. In the verse above, Paul is specifically talking about peaceable relationships. But it's good for me to remember that I am responsible for myself—for things that are within my control. And I finally broke through to realize that the "big visions" are not the result of just wanting them to happen. Some places where they happen have a wonderful mix of the right demographic at the right time. But the more I look at those places, the more I realize that people have been taking care of what's in their control.

I can decide to pray for the people in the neighborhood who don't know Jesus loves them. I can decide to be intentional about my relationships with community folks. I can decide to do what depends on me...and I can ask you to do the same.

And I can trust that God will give us everything we need to do all that God has asked us to do. That doesn't necessarily mean that we can do all that we want to do or all that we have been used to doing over the years or even that we don't need to do anything new. It's just that sometimes we keep setting goals without really examining and committing to what we need to do to get there.

So I'm encouraging you to start a faith practice that you can control, whether that's prayer or inviting a friend to church or volunteering a certain number of hours or reading your Bible or coming to worship more regularly (or at least figuring out a way to check in with the community!). This is not to earn God's favor... it's so that we might truly be what we claim—disciples of Jesus Christ, walking in His way.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Cynthia Kepler-Harver". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a large, sweeping initial 'C'.



Women's News

Those of you who missed BIF's meeting in August, really missed a fun meeting. We enjoyed a tape of Dennis Swanberg's comedy and inspiration. We hope to enjoy another one in September. Dennis is a graduate of Reagan High, a Baptist preacher and is related to some of our congregation. His religious humor is nationally known.

All groups are beginning their meetings for Fall. The Fall District Meeting will be held the third weekend in September. Come go with us for food, fun fellowship and learning.

Patty Marcum has come up with another cute craft idea for sales. (It's a pocket book,) We hope to have a sale of craft items in November in time for Christmas. If you would like a tissue box cover in a special theme, let her know. We have done frogs, ABCs for teachers, pug dogs, shells, flowers, etc. If you have a special room or someone you know collects a special item, she will try to match it. They meet on most Tuesday mornings, except when BIF is meeting.

The Lamplighters will begin meeting as soon as it is cool enough to work in the banner closet. It needs reorganizing, and Pat Marcum has promised to build us some shelves as soon as he has time.

The Executive Committee will meet for lunch at Tres Amigos on Saturday, August 22 at 11:30 A.M. We will be planning for the coming months. Members of the committee are: Alberta Shelton, Stephanie Lacy, Patty Marcum, Linda Eaker, Billie Talley, Kay Dunbar, and Connie Tatom. Feel free to give any input or ideas to any of the above or join us. Our meetings are always open.

The Nominating Committee will also meet soon. They are: Billie Talley, Connie Tatom, Patty Marcum, Linda Eaker, and Katherine Eaker.

Alberta Shelton, Holly and Kamika had a great time at Mt. Welsey at the first Mission U for the Rio Texas Conference. The pool was great. The girls

saw lots of deer and learned about Latin America. Courses offered were: Latin America, The Church and those with Disabilities, and a Spiritual Growth Study on faith and happiness: What Is Real Joy and Happiness? These studies will be available in the coming year. It was great to have our own Clayton Karrer as music leader.

MONTHLY PANCAKE BREAKFAST



**Come join your church family
for a pancake breakfast on
September 6 at 8:30 AM.**



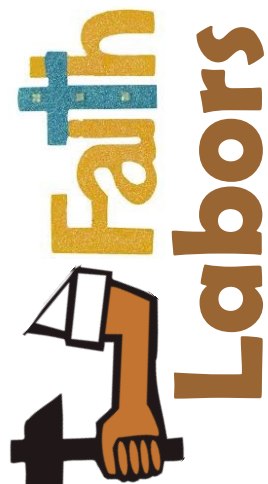
YOUTH NEWS

UMYF-United Methodist Youth Fellowship

Our youth will participate in the district-wide Back to School Worship event at Bethany on August 22nd from 6-9 pm. Please bring \$5 to help with the meal. We will also restart our once a month workday at the FreeStore next month. In September that will fall on the 20th and we will be at the store from 1-3 pm. Look for more information about regular Sunday activities as we get our fall program ramped up. Feel free to contact Kendall for more information, 512-844-6809 or kendallsmith@accentfoods.com.

See you on Sunday!

Kendall



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