

The Newsletter

August 2014

Memorial United Methodist Church
6100 Berkman Drive Austin TX 78723

Rev. Cynthia Kepler-Karrer - Pastor

**A great place to meet new friends, find
needed encouragement and discover
God's plan for you.**

Monday - Friday: 8:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Phone: 512. 452.5796

Fax: 512.450.0323

Find us on Facebook at
Memorial United Methodist Church-Austin

Web site:

www.memorialumcaustin.com

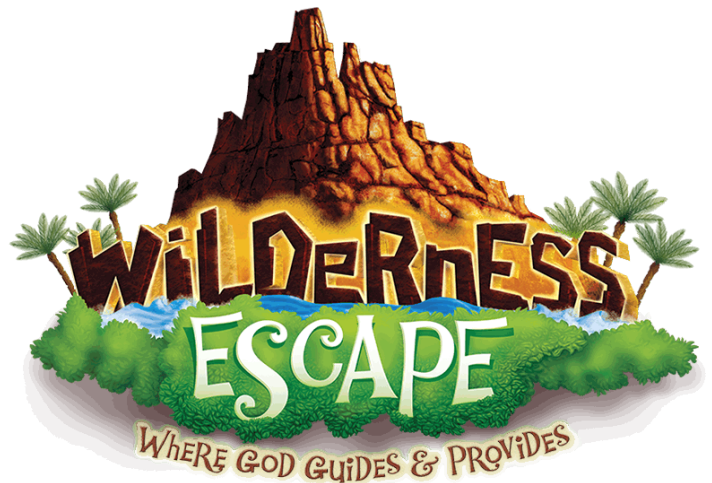
Email:

secretary@memorialumcaustin.com

Sunday Schedule

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

Worship - 10:30 a.m.



VBS

Friday, August 8

5:30-8:30 PM

& Saturday, August 9

9:00 AM -2:00 PM

- Learn straight from a well-known Bible hero—Moses.
- Discover firsthand what it was like to live in the Israelite camp.
- Join one of the 12 Tribes of Israel for games, music, crafts, and manna.

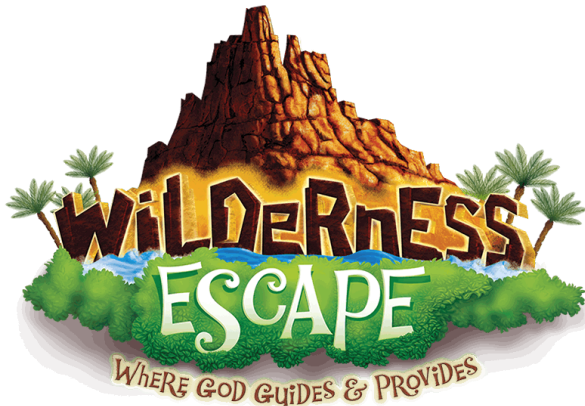


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YOUTH NEWS

Youth are volunteering at VBS August 8th & 9th. See front page for times and other information.



Memorial Youth are joining Bethany UMC Youth and UM Youth from all over the Austin area for Bethany's Back to School Events!

Below is a list of the activities for August 21, 22, and 24. Please note that Thursday's activity is high school only and will require a notarized medical release- <http://www.bethany-umc.org/ministries/student/101/events/youth-week> but all other activities are for both middle and high school students.

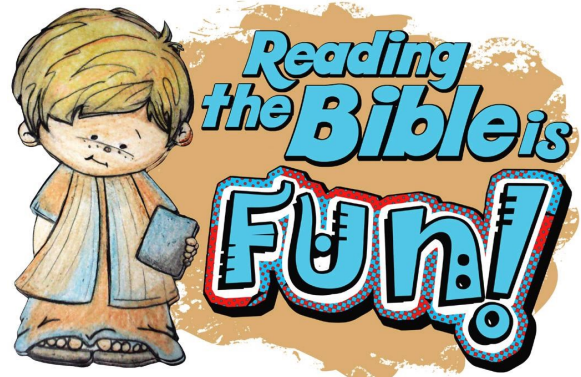
Thursday, August 21 9:00pm - 1:00am

(Friday) High School Broomball & ice cream social. Cost \$15

Friday, August 22 7:00-10:00pm Movie/Game Night. Free. Bring your friends and watch movies, play group games in the gym, video games or board games.

Sunday, August 24 5:30-8:00pm Austin District Back to School Worship with Mark Swayze Band. Dinner and Worship. Cost \$5.00
RSVP using sign-up genius at the following link

www.SignUpGenius.com/go/30E054DAEAA2EAB9-endofsummer/@z@z



Third Grades Bibles

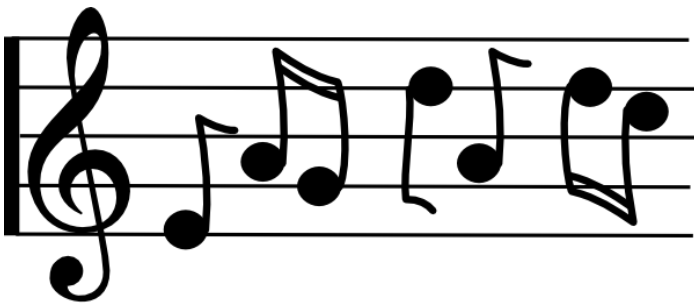
The church will be presenting Bibles to 3rd graders on September 21st, so we need to know who all should get one. If you know a 3rd grader connected to our church, please let the church office know so we can order enough bibles. Also, if you know an older child who missed out on the opportunity in the 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.



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" dual scale metric & 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.



Welcome to our new

Choir Director,

Phillip Hill.

Wednesday Rehearsal Times:

Handbells, 6PM

Choir, 7PM

Phillip D. Hill, baritone, is on the voice faculty of Austin Community College and was on the voice faculty of Texas State University - San Marcos from 2009 - 2012. He will receive his Doctor of Musical Arts (DMA) degree in vocal performance from the University of Texas in August.

Mr. Hill is from Jackson, Mississippi and received his Bachelor's degree in vocal performance from Mississippi College and his Master's degree in Vocal performance from the University of Texas in Austin. While in Mississippi, Mr. Hill sang numerous operatic roles with the Mississippi Opera Association, Mississippi Symphony Orchestra and many oratorio roles with several Mississippi choral companies and organizations. He also had the pleasure of singing in a master class under Leontyne Price and has been a guest recitalist on civic occasions throughout the South. While in Austin, Mr. Hill performed many operatic and oratorio roles including the baritone solos in Delius' *Appalachia* under the direction of Gunther Schuller, and the bass solos in the United States debut of Garcia's *Missa de Nossa Senhora da Conceição* followed by a Brazilian tour of this same work. In the summer of 2006, Mr. Hill had the opportunity to perform the role of Count Almaviva in Mozart's *The Marriage of Figaro* in Rising Sun, Indiana. This past fall, Mr. Hill performed the role of L'Ami in Debussy's *The Fall of the House of Usher* and this spring, Mr. Hill performed the role of Falstaff in Getty's *Plump Jack* for the University of Texas at Austin. The 2007 Austin Critics Table Awards honored Mr. Hill with the Outstanding Classical Singer Award for these

latter two performances. In the summer of 2007, Mr. Hill sang the role of Papageno in Mozart's *Magic Flute* in Costa Rica and Mazatlan. Mr. Hill's Papageno was reviewed in the Mexican newspaper *Noroeste* stating, "...muy bien interpretado por [translation: interpreted very well by] Phillip Hill." In the fall of 2007, Mr. Hill performed the baritone solos in Garcia's *Stabat Mater* and *Laudate Dominum* for dignitaries, ambassadors and presidents of Latin American countries in Washington D. C. at the Organization of Latin American Countries. He also performed and recorded the baritone solos for Garcia's *Requiem* for the Brazilian government as part of a project to distribute 18th century Brazilian court music to the world. He also performed the baritone solos in many of Bach's Cantatas for the Bach Cantata Project at the Blanton Museum of Art. He sang Olin Blich in Floyd's *Susannah* for the Butler Opera Center in Austin and sang a concert version of the *Magic Flute* in Morelia, Mexico. This week he is touring in Kansas City with Liz Cass and Cynthia Wilson singing various operatic literature through the Margot Quintet.

We are blessed to have such an accomplished choir director on staff.

Communion Offerings

for August and September

August's Communion offering will go to support students and teachers at Harris Elementary.

September's Communion offering will go to support Higher Education.

Fall Calendar for Altar Flowers Posted

Altar flowers may be given in memory or honor of loved ones or for special mission projects. *Fill out a form designating your wish* and leave at the office or drop it off in the offering plate on Sunday. A new sign up sheet for Sundays through the end of December has been posted in the hallway of the administration wing. Bouquets are \$20.00 each - two maximum per Sunday. Stop and sign up today.

News from the Pews

Billie Nixon, Membership Coordinator

Baby Blessings



We are always delighted to report “new life” in our church family. With three births this year, Connie Tatom now has eleven grandchildren and five great-grandchildren. Her granddaughter, Sarah (daughter of Patsy and Ray Rasa) and husband, Jonathan Martinez, had a baby boy, Jonathan Carter Martinez, in April. In May, Connie welcomed another grandchild when her son, Billy, and his wife, Angela, had a baby boy named Samuel Alvin Tatom. Baby #3 was born in June to Connie’s daughter, Laura Card, and her husband, Lew. They named their son Charles Thomas Card.

Ross and Zora Mae Hise’ family has also grown this summer. Chloe Anne Whiteside was born in July to Paul (PW) and Andrea Whiteside. Chloe’s grandparents are Paul and Kerry Hise. This makes Ross and Zora Mae grandparents to five grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

Memorial Gifts

Some people may not realize that one way to honor a loved one or celebrate a special occasion is to donate money to the Memorial Fund of our church. When a donation is made to the Memorial Fund our church sends a letter to the person or family for whom the amount was donated to acknowledge that a gift has been given to honor them. Often this is done in lieu of flowers at a funeral, but it need not only be in memory of someone. One could give a gift in honor of a birth, a wedding, an anniversary, or a special event.

When money is donated it is either designated for a

special request or goes to the worship fund to enhance worship. Some of the ways funds are used include updating the instruments, purchasing music, and improving the sanctuary.

If you would like to make a memorial gift you may do so at any time by letting the financial secretary know that the donation is for the Memorial Fund and by naming who or what you would like to honor.

In Sympathy



Memorial sends love and concern to friends and loved ones who

have recently experienced death in their families.

Sympathy to Jimmy Leavelle in the death of his father, Gaines Leavelle. We also include Alberta Shelton in our sympathies as she was the dear friend and companion of Gaines.

Lt. Col. Gaines Smith Leavelle, USAF (Ret), age 91, died on Saturday, June 7, 2014. He was born in Jena (Greene County), Alabama to Ivola Lavender Leavelle and Lee Gaines Leavelle. Both preceded him in death. He was also preceded in death by his wife of 58 years, Doris Henderson Leavelle, his daughter Jan Leavelle Dodge, two sisters, Norma Leavelle Hoots and Carol Virginia Leavelle. Lt. Col. Leavelle entered the U.S. Army Air Corps shortly after the beginning of World War II and retired in 1967 from the U. S. Air Force. He served as a pilot during World War II, the Korean Conflict and Viet Nam War.

Gaines loved to travel and belonged to an RV Travel Group called the Armadillo Sams for many years.

News from the Pews

continued

He was an active member of Memorial United Methodist Church for more than 50 years. Gaines was also an avid fan of Alabama Crimson Tide Football and the San Antonio Spurs.

He is survived by his son, James Clifton Leavelle of Elgin, and his sister Dora Edna "Dodie" Wade of Northport, Alabama.

Burial was at Ft. Sam Houston on June 12, with full military honors.

Sympathy to Connie Tatom in the death of her mother **Ozelma Goodlett**, who died July 8, 2014 at the age of 93, after battling Parkinson's for five years all the while maintaining a cheerful disposition.

Ozelma was preceded in death by her husband, Armstrong Goodlett and her son, Dexter. She is survived by her three daughters, Kathleen, Connie, and Carol and their families. Funeral services were in Austin on July 13th at Cook-Walden Funeral Home.

Sympathy to Nan Berkley and family in the loss of her husband, **Rev. John Berkley**, age 83, of Gonzales, TX, who passed away July 7, 2014 after a long fight with cancer. John was the pastor at Memorial from 1979-1983. After forty years as a pastor in the Southwest Texas Conference, John retired in 1995. He is survived by his wife, Nan, his son, Mark, and his daughter, Rachel McNeil and her husband, Glen, and two grandchildren. We remember him for his kind, loving heart full of compassion for others. He touched many lives as a husband, father, friend, and pastor.

Please Help Zora Mae

Zora Mae Hise is working on a project to help Ross' caregivers understand him better. You can help if you knew Ross before his dementia by writing down

some of your thoughts about his personality and how he related to people. The hope is that if the caregivers know what Ross was like then they will be able to relate to him in a way that will be familiar and comforting to him. You can email your ideas to Zora Mae at REHise@juno.com or send them by post to 3202 Crosscreek Dr. Austin, TX 78757 or leave them in the church office. What a gift this will be to a man who has served the Lord with gladness and shared his talents and friendship with so many.



Women of the Church

- The BIF (Bible Information Fellowship) group will meet Tuesday, August 5th at 9:30 AM.
 - Knitting classes will start again, August 12th at 9:30 AM.
 - The Reading and Library group will start back up on Thursday, August 14th at 7:00 PM.
- the Lamplighters will meeting again in September.
- District Meeting of United Methodist Women will be September 20th, and the Conference Meeting will be in San Antonio in October.

Women's Fun Day

Saturday, August 23rd

more details will be in the church bulletin as the event gets organized

Also, the women are trying to partner with other agencies who are providing for the needs of refugee children. See Alberta Shelton if you are interested in helping with this project.





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 Lynda Rychlik
- 25 Karin Crumbling
- 26 Felicity Rodriquez
- 27 David Chandler
Patricia Ericson
Wallace Fowler
- 28 Kerry Schmidt McFarland
Keith Schmidt
Everette Owens
- 29 Vidette (Kiki) Corry
Michele Reinhart Rehm
- 30 Scooter Cheatham
- 31 Richard Friedrich
Julie Gonzales

AUGUST CALENDAR

Sunday, August 3 –Communion Sunday

8:45 am - Pancake Breakfast -Gym

9:15 am - Sunday School for all ages

10:30 am - Worship Service

Monday, August 4

6:15 am - Morning Prayer -Chapel

7:30 pm - Boy Scouts -Gym

Tuesday, August 5

9:30 am - Staff meeting

9:30 am - BIF Circle - Pearce

Wednesday, August 6

6 pm - Bell Practice

7 pm - Choir Practice

Friday, August 8

5:30 pm - Vacation Bible School

Saturday, August 9

9:00 am - Vacation Bible School

10:00 am - WPNA Meeting -Gym

Sunday, August 10

9:15 am - Sunday School for all ages

10:30 am - Worship Services

11:30 am - Trustees -Pearce

Monday, August 11

6:15 am - Morning Prayer -Chapel

6:30 pm - Church Council -Pearce

7:30 pm - Boy Scouts -Gym

Tuesday, August 12

9:30 am - Staff meeting

9:30 am - UMW Knitting - Pearce

6:30 pm - Wesley Board Meeting -Pearce

Wednesday, August 13

6 pm - Bell Practice

7 pm - Choir Practice

CALENDAR

CONTINUED

Thursday, August 14

7:00 pm - Reading and Library Circle (UMW)

7:00 pm - Austin Ukulele Society -Gym

Friday, August 15

11:00 am - Bible Study -Moore

Sunday, August 17—Memorial for Christ

9:15 am - Sunday School for all ages

10:30 am - Worship Service

Monday, August 18

6:15 am - Morning Prayer -Chapel

7:30 pm - Boy Scouts -Gym

Tuesday, August 19

9:30 am - Staff meeting

9:30 am - UMW Knitting - Pearce

Wednesday, August 20

6 pm - Bell Practice

7 pm - Choir Practice

Saturday, August 23

Women's Fun Day - details TBD

Sunday, August 24

9:15 am -Sunday School for all ages

10:30 am -Worship Service

Monday, August 25 School Starts

6:15 am - Morning Prayer -Chapel

7:30 pm - Boy Scouts -Gym

Tuesday, August 26

9:30 am - Staff meeting

9:30 am - UMW Knitting - Pearce

Wednesday, August 27

6 pm - Bell Practice

7 pm - Choir Practice

Sunday, August 31—Apportionment Sunday

Faith Labor

9:15 am - Sunday School for all ages

10:30 am - Worship Service

Monday, September 1 - Labor Day

Office Closed

Looking Ahead

- Y'ALL COME Sunday Covered Dish Dinner is September 14th
- Presentation of 3rd grade Bible and Teacher Appreciation Sunday is September 21st

BRUNCH

We are working on a schedule to continue having BRUNCH this fall. As we make plans we will announce dates and times at least two weeks in advance by email and through the bulletin.

PANCAKE BREAKFAST

Come join your church family
for a pancake breakfast on
Sunday, August 3, 2014
at 8:45 AM in the gym.



Regular Office
Hours will
resume on
August 18th.

Monday– Friday
8:30 AM– 3:00 PM

UMCOR Health Kits

We are collecting supplies for UMCOR Health Kits to be assembled on Faith Labors Sunday, August 31. Below is a list of items we will need. You may choose to purchase items to create a whole kit or purchase a single item in bulk. The estimated value of a health kit is \$12.00.

- 1 hand towel (15"x 25" to 17"x27") kitchen, cleaning, and microfiber towels are not acceptable
- 1 wash cloth
- 1 comb (needs to be sturdy and at least 8" long)
- 1 metal nail file or clipper (no emery boards or toe clippers)
- 1 bath size soap (3oz. and larger, no Ivory due to water content, do not remove from original packing)
- 1 toothbrush (adult size only, do not remove from original packing)
- 6 adhesive bandages (3/4" to 1" size, common household band aids)
- 1 plastic bag (1 gallon size sealable bags only)
- \$1.00 to purchase toothpaste

All items must be new. Do not wash any items as they will be considered used.



Memorial United Methodist Church

6100 Berkman Drive

Austin, Texas 78723 Phone: 512-452-5796

Fax: 512-450-0323

Web site: www.memorialumcaustin.com

Pastor's Corner

August 2014

"When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing beside her, he said to his mother, 'Woman, here is your son.' Then he said to the disciple, 'Here is your mother.' And from that hour the disciple took her into his own home. John 19:26-27

Right about this time last year, my father-in-law was beginning his radiation and chemotherapy for lung cancer. We had been told that as far as they could see, we were barely into Stage 3, which meant that it had moved beyond the lung, but they could only find evidence of it in 2 other lymph nodes.

What a year. The cancer advanced rapidly, and Ray died on October 12 of last year. 2014 started with Clayton going back to school, traveling back and forth to Dallas twice a week, the death of one of our four-legged children, and multiple deaths in the congregation. In addition, at MUMC, we were in the midst of a staff transition that took longer than expected. And there was the ongoing saga of trying to get a house that I owned when I pastored in south Austin ready to go on the market, trying to do a lot of the work ourselves.

Follow that with my parent's 50th anniversary, Clayton's family reunion, a knee surgery for my mom and an extended time of hospitalization for Clayton's mom with two heart catheterizations and finally a bypass surgery that involved two separate week-long hospital stays. At the end of the final hospital stay, I had to call Clayton with the news that his cousin had died, the first of his generation on that side of the family.

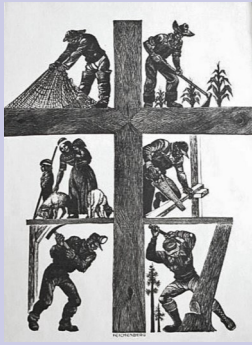
That's quite a litany, and I don't name it to get sympathy—this congregation has been marvelous at ministering to Clayton and me in small and large ways, making space for us to attend to those things that we really needed to do.

And isn't that the Body of Christ? You notice that in the Bible passage above that Jesus doesn't just tell his disciple to take care of his mother or vice versa. He tells them that they are now family to each other. A long time ago I had to let go of the idea I was called to take care of everyone and never receive any help.

I was talking to a member of the congregation, regretting all of my absence this summer. But she saw the beautiful side—in the way that people from the congregation have just stepped into place, carrying on and even birthing wonderful and new ideas because they have been open to the moving of the Spirit.

This is church. Not just the sermon on Sunday, but the living out of our mutual call. I am privileged to be your pastor. I am privileged to have been given to you. I am privileged that you have been given to me. Come and see what we can all do together because we love Jesus and have been loved by him as well.





Faith Labors Sunday!

August 31, 2014

(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. This year, we will be expanding our projects to include the following:

Welcome Back bags for Harris Elementary teachers (repeat)

Health Kits for the homeless and UMCOR (repeat)

Thank you gifts for our Wesley staff (new!)

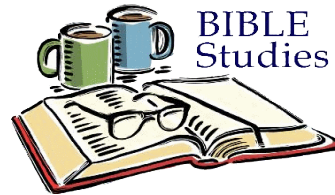
Treat trays for the Fire Department on Berkman (repeat)

Transfer and new plantings for the church and for visitors (new!)

Assembling freezer bags for Crock-pot dinners for people recovering from illness/surgery or following a death (new!)

In addition, there may be a couple of other projects, but we will also have a meal on-site this year, after which Daniel Swayze, our pianist, will be offering another recital with works by Prokofiev, Beethoven, and Chopin. More details about the recital will be in the bulletin in the coming weeks.

Fall Bible Study Survey



The office is collecting information from people interested in participating in a Bible Study this fall.

We need to know what

days you prefer and what length of study you prefer, as well as what topics you might be interested in studying. Below is a list of options. You can let the church office know your preferences by sending an email or dropping a note by the office.

Day of the week : Mon. Tues. Thurs. Sun.

Length: 1-4 weeks, 4-8 weeks, 8+ weeks

Do you need child care?

Topics: Scripture Study, Book Study, Finances, Relationships, Prayer or other Spiritual Disciplines, Spiritual Direction, Questions of Jesus, or Social Justice Topics (immigration, healthcare, poverty, people living with disabilities)

Northwest Hills UMC Healing and Prayer Worship



from 7-9pm at
on Friday, August 22
and the Prayer Retreat on
Healing on Saturday,
August 23 from 9-3:30
also at Northwest Hills
for \$35 (includes
materials and lunch).