

# The Newsletter

## August 2018

### 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](http://www.memorialumcaustin.com)

Find us on Facebook at

Memorial United Methodist Church-Austin

Email:

[secretary@memorialumcaustin.com](mailto:secretary@memorialumcaustin.com)

Phone: 512.452.5796

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## August 2018



Choir Begins Again

August 1st Potluck

@Kendall & Laura  
Smith's Home

Rehearsals Wednesdays

@ 7pm Choir Room



90+ Ice  
Cream Social

August 12th  
Parlor

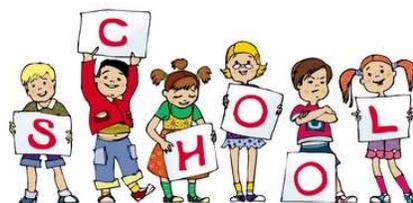
2:30pm-4:30pm

Featuring:



School Supply Fundraiser  
August & September

See Inside



## News From Pews



By **Billie Nixon**  
Membership  
Coordinator

## 90 + Member Celebration



Come join us for ice cream on August 12th,  
2:30pm in the Parlor!

*Featuring the talents of Austin Harmony  
Chorus*

New 90 + Member this Year: John Nixon

## Births



Debbie Parsley welcomes  
her 3rd grandchild, a  
granddaughter, Charlie  
Loren Blincoe, born June 19,  
2018 to Debbie's son Ian  
Blincoe and his wife Emily.

Debbie has 2 grandsons, Jack William  
Polidore, born September 18, 2014, and  
Luke Henry Polidore, born April 18, 2016, to  
her daughter Sarah Polidore and husband  
John.

Congratulations to your family... let the Fun  
begin!



Our deepest  
condolences to Jane  
Friedrich in the death of  
her brother. J.P. Skinner,  
89 years old died on June  
20th after a fall and long  
illness. Services were held  
at Bartlett Goodnight  
Funeral Home on June  
29th.

Sincere condolences to  
Cliff Masters on the passing of his mother.  
Norma Jean Graber on 4-22-1926 in Orrville,  
OH. Married 8-22-1949 to David Masters.  
Died in Port Washington Wisconsin on 7-9-18.  
The song leader at her rest home was singing  
Amazing Grace as she took her last breath.

Love and prayers to Jane, Cliff and their  
families during this difficult time.



Memorial is honored to welcome a new member  
by transfer: Betty Sanders on July 22, 2018

Betty is not a stranger to us. She married Randy  
Sanders 2/12/72 and became very active like all  
the Sanders family, who belonged to Memorial at  
that time.

Randy had cancer and passed away on July 13,  
1986.

Betty has many talents, and we look forward to  
having her with us. She enjoys needlepoint and  
making jewelry as well as woodwork.

Congratulations to Betty! We at Memorial  
welcome you and pray that God will enrich our  
lives as we witness for Christ together.



Hello Memorial Family! I am super excited to join you as youth director! For those that may not know, I am originally from a small town in South Carolina but lived in Brooklyn, New York over the past 8 years. While living in NY, I worked as a school counselor in both elementary and middle school settings. During my time at Unity Prep Middle School, I began

volunteering as a youth leader with Young Life. This opened my eyes and my heart to the possibility of youth ministry. For the first time, I was able to share my faith with my students. It provided a space for me to talk openly with teenagers about my heart for Jesus. The work I did while serving with Young Life was life changing and ultimately led to my decision to apply to CYMT.

Over the next three years, my hope and prayer is to build up a thriving youth and young adult ministry at Memorial. My vision is to create a setting where youth can experience the power of Christ in a way that's relatable and relevant to them, and to create a space where teenagers can build community while also serving the community. While working to do this, I know that I will need your help! So, if you're interested in volunteering with the youth ministry, please let me know.

What's Next for MYM (Memorial Youth Ministry)

Back to School Celebration!



The first day of school is August 20! I am currently brainstorming possible back to school celebratory activities such as a Backyard BBQ or Pancake Breakfast. The goal of the event is to not only celebrate the beginning of a new school

year, but also to remind the community that we are here and want to invest in the lives of the children within the surrounding neighborhoods. In addition to great food, this event will also include fun games and activities, and possibly free giveaways such as school supplies.

If you have any suggestions or would like to be a part of the planning committee, please let me know! I'd love to have you :-)



Felicia Hefney Memorial Youth Ministry

Office #: 512-452-5797

Email: [fshefney@gmail.com](mailto:fshefney@gmail.com)

- Do you enjoy making bread from scratch? Have you always wanted to learn how to make your own, but are just a little intimidated by the process?
- Want to hang out, learn some new recipes and think about the way that God works on your spirit?



**Bread Church**  
**Thursday August 16th**  
**7pm in the Gym**



**Y'ALL**  
**COME**

**Annual Fall Y'all Come Sunday Dinner**

A covered dish luncheon.

**September 9, 2018**

**11:45 a.m. (in the gym)**

See Billie Nixon to sign up to help.

**2018 Calendar for Altar Flowers**



Altar flowers may be given in memory or honor of loved ones or for special mission projects .

***Fill out a form ASAP designating your wish and leave at the secretary office in the door slot.*** Bouquets

are \$20.00 each - two maximum per Sunday.  
**Stop and signup today.**

## Pastor's Corner



*Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? As it is written,*

*“For your sake we are being killed all day long; we are accounted as sheep to be slaughtered.”*

*No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. (Romans 8:35-39)*

I stood at the graveside along with people from all over, people who knew and loved the Johnson family. Rev. Sheldon Johnson had officially retired on July 1, and while he was moving his family from Goldthwaite to Smithville, they were in a horrible car crash that killed his wife, Sharon, and only child, Ray. That day at the graveside would have been Ray's 14<sup>th</sup> birthday. Sheldon was only able to be present by video link, as he was still in the hospital with severe injuries at that time.

The pastor began speaking these words of hope from Romans 8 (you can find them as an affirmation of faith in our main hymnals at #887), and I was caught on the phrase “we are more than conquerors”. It certainly didn't feel like a “winning” moment at the cemetery. Even though I believe wholeheartedly in eternal life and that death here is not the end of our lives in Christ, the tragic circumstances of this particular death had shaken me.

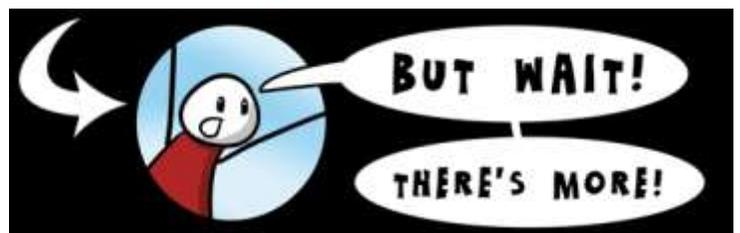
What does being a “conqueror” mean? In Paul's context, conquerors were those who managed to capture territory and bring it (and the people there) under their control. Romans were good at conquering, just as the Assyrians and Babylonians and Persians had been at conquering the ancient land of Israel. In the time of both ancient Israel and Paul, lands and territory would move back and

forth, being conquered and re-conquered, depending on who had the best and biggest army or the most sophisticated weapons. If you were a conqueror, you might not stay that way if you couldn't hold the land.

At that graveside, a person might have seen something less than victory, a defeat. The world only sees two people tragically gone—the hardship and distress and peril and death. There was no army who could bring them back, no technology or weapon that could restart their hearts. But we heard again from scripture that *even in that moment* we (and they!) were more than conquerors.

God's victory through Jesus goes well beyond what we might see as “winning”. God's victory extends into the eternal. We are more than conquerors because there is nothing—not anything bad and not even anything good (which can be tempting!) that can keep us from God's love. To be MORE than a conqueror is to know that we move from grace to grace—as Charles Wesley put it, we are “change from glory into glory ‘til in heaven we take our place.” While we keep on working on faithfulness here in this life, we are already assured of Christ's victory on our behalf.

As far as it depends on Christ, this victory is not one that can be taken back. Death cannot re-conquer us. We can refuse this victory (we do, after all, believe that we can turn away from God's love), but that love and grace is always available to us. God's promise to us in Jesus Christ is that the absolute worst circumstances, the absolute worst situation, still cannot keep God from loving us.



We don't just win a victory that might be taken from us at any moment. We are MORE than conquerors, not because of our victory, but because Christ's

*Synthia Kepler-Hauer*



# AUGUST CALENDAR

There are several ongoing events and new events that may not be listed. Please check the building use calendar or with the office if you need to reserve space.

**\* Starred \* Events Happen Each Week**

10:30-1:30 Mon-Fri. Meals On Wheels-Gym Kitchen

**Wednesday August 1**

\*10:00am-1:00pm FreeStore Donations - Gym

\*11:00am-1pm FreeStore Shopping - Gym

6:30pm Choir Potluck—Kendall & Laura’s Home

**Thursday August 2**

**Friday August 3**

\*10:00am-1:00pm FreeStore Donations - Gym

**Saturday August 4**

\*9am-11am Free Store Shopping& Donations - Gym

**Sunday August 5**

9:15am Sunday School for all ages

10:30am Worship Service

**Monday August 6**

\*10:00am-1:00pm FreeStore Donations - Gym

\*6:30pm Girl Scouts Believer’s Room & Gym

\*7:00pm Austin Harmony - Choir room

**Tuesday August 7**

6:00pm Crop Hunger Walk - NEW Room

**Wednesday August 8**

\*7:00pm Choir Rehearsal

**Thursday August 9**

7:00pm Austin Ukulele Society - Gym

**Friday August 10**

**Saturday August 11**

10am Windsor Park Neighborhood Assoc. - FHL

**Sunday August 12**

9:15am Sunday School for all ages

10:30am Worship Service

11:30am Trustees - Parlor

2:30-4:30pm 90+ Ice Cream Social - Parlor

**Monday August 13**

**Tuesday August 14**

6:30pm Wesley Board - Pearce

**Wednesday August 15** Sept. Newsletter Content Due

**Thursday August 16**

7:00pm Bread Church - Gym

**Friday August 17**

**Saturday August 18**

**Sunday August 19**

9:15am Sunday School for all ages

10:30am Worship Service

11:30am Leadership Team - Pearce

**Monday August 20 First Day of School**

6:30pm Finance Team - Pearce

**Tuesday August 21**

**Wednesday August 22**

**Thursday August 23**

**Friday August 24**

**Saturday August 25**

**Sunday August 26**

9:15am Sunday School for all ages

10:30am Worship Service

**Monday August 27**

**Tuesday August 28**

**Wednesday August 29**

**Thursday August 30**

**Friday August 31**

\*Please Note that there are ongoing events in the same space and on the same day each week, such as: Choir Rehearsal, FreeStore Shopping, Girl Scouts, AH Choral and more.

**\*\*Pastor Cynthia is on vacation from**

July 29th– August 8th.

If you have a pastoral care need, please contact the church office or Billie Nixon .\*\*





# August Birthdays

- 4th Melanie Baccus
- 5th Doris Owens
- 6th Christian Ramos
- 8th Geraldine Boydston
- 14th Taryn Stewart
- 15th Lonan Zia Gray
- 21st Janet Clark
- 22nd Lynda Rychlik
- 25th Karin Crumbling
- 26th Felicity Rodriguez
- 27th David Chandler  
Patricia Ericson  
Wallace Fowler
- 28th Kerry Schmidt McFarland  
Everette Owens  
Keith Schmidt
- 29th Vidette (Kiki) Corry  
Michele Reinhart Rehm
- 30th Scooter Cheatham
- 31st Richard Friedrich  
Julie Gonzales



AISSD goes back to school on August 20th—we will be collecting donated funds for school supplies for Harris Elementary in August, September & October. Mark your donation with ‘Harris Elementary’ and drop in the offering plate or in the secretary’s office.



## Worship Readers Wanted

We are constantly seeking people who would like to participate in worship by reading scripture or offering the Prayers of the People. We believe that the more voices we hear, the more we understand that liturgy is the work of all the people-- not just the pastor and choir.

If you would like to receive more information about doing this and get on the schedule please contact Connie Tatom 512-923-3977 to volunteer to read scripture and prayers on Sunday during worship.



## Schedule Your Building Space Use

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. Check availability at 512-452-5796 or [secretary@Memorialumcaustin.com](mailto:secretary@Memorialumcaustin.com)





Veggies, Eggs and a Side of HOPE – that’s the theme for this coming year’s CROP Hunger Walks nationwide. Here’s what that looks

like:

As many as 39 percent of children under five living in West Timor are underweight.

Most households where CWS West Timor programs are located spend about 73% of their income on food.

Through the Timor Zero Hunger program, families are raising chickens and starting or expanding vegetable gardens. Both mean better nutrition and a more diverse diet. Within weeks the families will have eggs and vegetables to eat or sell. In addition, over 60 young children with severe malnutrition received high-energy milk and nutritious foods at the CWS-supported Therapeutic Feeding Center. Over 300 families with children under five have improved nutrition through the support of chickens and home gardens.

Kevin Murphy

Community Engagement Specialist



SENIORS NEED SUMMER VOLUNTEERS

SUMMER.... A great time to volunteer!

Summer is a busy time for our volunteers. It is sometimes difficult to find the drivers we need to fill the open requests from our clients.



People look forward to summer all year long. It is the time for vacations, family, bbqs, swimming, ice cream, reading, beaches, and trying something new. Perhaps this year is the year to give volunteering a try.

The hot summer months takes some volunteers away, but it also brings in new people who can volunteer only during the summer. We have a great group of teen volunteers who help on the vans and in the office. We have two different organizations working with us, the **Young Men’s Service League**-Round Rock and the **National Charity League** -Round Rock, who are able to provide more help to us during the summer months and it is a great time for more youth to participate. Many teachers also love to volunteer with us during the summer months. Are you involved in a group that would like to volunteer with us?

Senior Access is very aware that you have a choice in when, how, where, and with whom you volunteer and donate. The clients you serve are so grateful you have chosen them. They love seeing you and are grateful for the opportunity it gives them to be able to get out of their homes to do the business that they need to do, especially during the hot summer.

Contact Sherrie at [vr@senioraccessstx.org](mailto:vr@senioraccessstx.org) or call 512.310.1060 or visit [www.senioraccessstx.org](http://www.senioraccessstx.org).



Wednesdays

11am-1pm

and Saturdays

9am-11am



Monday,  
Wednesday,  
Friday

10am-1pm &

Saturdays 8:30am-11am

In Gym (not the office)



*Help Deliver Meals in your Neighborhood!  
Weekday Volunteer Drivers needed; delivery routes take one hour or less; additional sites open all over Austin. Contact our Volunteer Services office at 512-476-6325 today!*

Thanks! Denise Jimenez

Director of Volunteer Services East 5<sup>th</sup> Street  
Austin, Texas 78702

[www.mealsonwheelscentraltexas.org](http://www.mealsonwheelscentraltexas.org)



## **Y'ALL COME** **SUNDAY**

**Annual Fall Y'all Come Sunday Dinner**

A covered dish luncheon.

**September 9, 2018**

**11:45 a.m. (in the gym)**

**Bring a side to share. Meat, drinks provided. Sign up to Help**

Memorial United Methodist Church  
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Austin, Texas 78723  
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Web site: [www.memorialumcaustin.com](http://www.memorialumcaustin.com)  
ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

