

The Newsletter

December 2017

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:

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In this issue:

News from the Pews	2-3
Women's News & Events.....	4
Pastor's Corner.....	5
Calendar & Birthdays.....	6-7
Poinsettia Order Form.....	8

December 2018

December 2nd



December 16th



December 24th at 7pm



News From Pews



By Billie Nixon

Membership Coordinator



Poinsettia Time!

Order Form on Back

Deadline to order is

Friday December 14th.

Please fill out the order form on back page or pick it up in the Narthex or bulletin . The cost is \$10 for each Christmas Poinsettia. **ORDER NOW!** They will be placed in the Chancel on Dec. 23rd.



Congratulations to our friend Phillip Lowe who has moved back to Austin. He had joined Memorial and then later

moved out of town. Welcome back, we are delighted to see you and your family each Sunday.

Births



We have lots of exciting news about new 'grand babies' that have arrived to our members just in time to make each of their Christmas' a happier one!

Tom & Priscilla Bissett have another granddaughter. Amelie Claire Bissett Deutchman born Oct. 24, 2018 weighing 7lbs. 1oz and 20" long. Amelie's parents are Abraham Deutchman & Sandra Bissett Deutchman, her big sister is Eleanor and her grandmother is Cherie Deutchman.

Billy & Evelyn Capps of Austin are excited about their great grandson Ezra Austin Popovich. Born Oct. 30, 2018 at 7pm weighing 8 lbs, 1 oz. and 20" long.

Ezra's parents are Kellee & Zach Popovich of Metairie, LA, grandparents are Janice Capps Brown & Mark Brown of Pflugerville and Larry & Stefanie Popovich of New Orleans, LA. Great grandparents are Billy & Evelyn Capps and Margie Brown of Austin, TX. And let's not forget great uncle Jimmy Capps.

Lela Barker has a 7th great grandchild. Born Oct. 31, 2018 named Madeline Patenella from Bryan, TX weighing 7 1/2 lbs. Lela has 5 great grandsons and now 2 great grand daughters!

We thank each of you for sharing your good news with us and may God give you good health and happiness.



We always regret the loss of our members and friends. The following two people used to be members of Memorial and we wish to remember them here.

Love and Concern go to the family of Kerry McAlister, who passed away on Oct. 8, 2018 at the age of 88. Kerry's wife Doris preceded him in death. He is survived by his son Randall McAlister & family and daughter Jane Ann Pence & family. Funeral services were held on Oct. 15, 2018 at 11am at Cook Walden Pflugerville, committment services followed.

We also wish to remember the family of Louise Gregg who passed away Oct. 16, 2018. She is preceded in death by her husband Jesse Gregg and son-in-law Don W. Kothman and four brothers. She is survived by her daughter Sheila Gregg Kothman along with many grand children and great grandchildren.

Her funeral was held Oct. 22, 2018 at 11am in Round Rock at Beck Funeral Home & private burial followed.

We at Memorial remember these prior members and care for their families. May God give you peace in your happy memories of your loved ones.





Weddings

We are so delighted to report and congratulate Caitlyn Dennig and Bohdi Bailey on their wedding

November 9, 2018 at 4pm at Antebellum Oaks venue.

Caitlyn is the daughter of Laurie and William Dennig and her sisters are Nicole and Michelle. This lovely family has been a member of Memorial since Caitlyn was very small. It has been a joy to be a part of each one of these family members lives all these years.

May God bless Caitlyn and Bohdi with happiness and love.

GOODBYE

2018

2018 Contributions

If you wish for any contributions to Memorial UMC to "count" for tax year 2018, they must be in to our office by December 31.

If the office is not open, they may be placed in the mail slot under the portico at the office entrance. Mail and messages will be collected daily during the last week of the year. Thank you!



Join Your Church
Every 2nd Sunday
of the month for
Pancake Breakfast in
the Gym

December 9th
8:30am



We now have an option to give to Memorial UMC online through our website. This way of giving is not meant to replace normal giving paths (electronic funds transfer, checks or cash), but to offer people an additional way to support the ministry of the church. If you have friends or know of people who have wondered how they can give to the church for a memorial donation or to support a ministry outreach that they are particularly interested in, that's a great place to send them. We hope to get connected to more folks who value the ministry that we do and want to support it through giving. For more information, contact the church office at 512-452-5796. www.MemorialUMCAustin.com



UMW Accepting \$
Donations for
Brown Santa
December 9th

United Methodist Women will be collecting monetary donations only for Brown Santa so they may purchase specific toys for specific ages. Please donate at the Pancake breakfast in December in lieu of a money donation for your breakfast. Money donations may also be given to Patty Marcum or Alberta Shelton.



Women's News

Submitted by Alberta Shelton



All women are invited to join us on December 4th at the home of Stephanie Lacy for our annual Christmas meeting. We will leave the church and caravan to Georgetown at 10am. Please bring 16 items to be placed in bags to be

delivered to shut ins, a covered dish to share for lunch and a gift to exchange around the tree.



Donations received at the monthly pancake breakfast will go to Brown Santa. Whether you eat or not, please make a donation for children residing in the county and outside the city limits who are served by Brown Santa.



Don't forget our newest group the WHO group for widows. Women in this group have been widowed from 30+ years to one

year. Discussions go around the challenges of the single life ie., needing a death certificate for your late husband after 17 years, changing your own will, the change in law on 'Do not resuscitate', relocating etc... We meet the last Sunday after church in the Pearce room. Bring a lunch.



Wesley School Annual Christmas Program
Dec. 14th 6:00pm
In the Sanctuary

Refreshments served afterwards



Life is full of choices. From the moment we wake each morning to the moment we fall asleep at night, our day

is full of choices we make. Sometimes we may not realize that seeing the good in the world around us can be an everyday, even every moment choice. Do you see the good around you? Do you see the good in the cold, rainy days? Do you see the good in the angry driver while going to work? (This could be a challenge!) Do you see the good in volunteering? This December, make a conscious choice to See the Good every day.

Why does this matter? Dr Rick Hanson wrote an article entitled, *See the Good in Others*, and said, "Seeing the good in others is thus a simple but very powerful way to feel happier and more confident, and become more loving and more productive in the world." How do you accomplish this sometimes-difficult choice? Practice! Slow down, notice positive intentions, see abilities, and positive character traits.



Senior Access sees the good of you volunteers every day! But, do you see it? We see you taking difficult rides, last minute rides, or rides that are on the longer side. We see you taking multiple drives a week. We see you making phone calls to check on clients and see how they are doing. We see you mowing the yards or changing the lightbulbs. We see every loving volunteer act you provide. You, volunteers are essential! Do you See the Good you bring to your communities?

Senior Access sees the good of you donors who give so willingly. You provide a means for our doors to stay open, to provide a way for the clients to remain independent. You donors are essential! Do you See the Good?

Our clients come to us with varying needs, but with a common desire—to remain independent. Can you see the good that it does for our communities to help each other? As you volunteer or donate you will come to realize the truth in what Helen Keller has said, "The best and most beautiful things in the world cannot be seen or even touched...they must be felt with the heart."

As you approach this very busy, hectic time of year, take a moment each day to slow down and See the Good. Do you want to be a part of this group that sees and shares the good? Senior Access needs you! With a growing population of people who no longer drive, we need people like you who are willing to give what they need. To learn more about volunteering or donating to Senior Access, contact Sherrie at 512.310.1060 or vr@senioraccessstx.org or visit our webpage at www.senioraccessstx.org.

Join us as we Share the Good this holiday season for our 24th

[Annual Mistletoe Magic Concert](#)
December 16th at 6:30 pm at
First United Methodist Church-
Round Rock, 1004 N Mays St.



<https://secure.givelively.org/donate/senior-access-tx/mistletoe-magic-choral-concert>



“So many others have tried their hand at putting together a story of the wonderful harvest of Scripture and history that took place among us, using reports handed down by the original eyewitnesses who served this Word with their very lives. Since I have investigated all the reports in close detail, starting from the story’s beginning, I decided to write it all out for you, most honorable Theophilus, so you can know beyond the shadow of a doubt the reliability of what you were taught.” (Luke 1:1-4, The Message)

Last year, we talked about hands during Advent—all of the hands that participate in mission and ministry through Memorial UMC and in partnership with Memorial UMC. But on the cover of our Christmas Eve bulletin, I included pictures of modern examples of hands which paralleled the characters of the Christmas story we find in a combination of the Gospels of Luke and Matthew.

These included:

David—one of the ancestors of Jesus, named in Matthew’s genealogy (portrayed by Kenneth Jourdan, one of the longest-standing members of the Memorial congregation)

Zechariah—a High Priest of Israel (portrayed by Bishop Robert Schnase)

Elizabeth—a cousin to Mary, who at an advanced age became pregnant and bore and raised John the Baptist (portrayed by Alberta Shelton, who is helping raise her great-grandkids)

Angel (or “Messenger”)—bearer of news to many whom God was calling for this moment (portrayed by Kayce Nixon, our secretary and communications hub)

Joseph—husband to Mary, a carpenter by trade (portrayed by Pat Marcum, who has done woodworking and carpentry for our

congregation)

Mary—the young mother of Jesus (portrayed by one of our younger mothers, Stephanie Shelton, who was pregnant at the time)

Jesus, who was portrayed by Evan, a toddler in our congregation

Shepherds—who heard the announcement of Jesus’ birth (portrayed by several of our Wesley school teachers who watch over their own flocks!)

The Heavenly Host—who sang praises to God from on high (portrayed by Kendall and Laura Smith, who help us with sound and projections on Sunday morning when we sing God’s praise)

The Magi—who followed a star to seek Jesus, the newborn king (portrayed by Wallace Fowler, a highly honored professor of aerospace engineering at UT)

These were people related to the congregation whose work or relationships or lives reflected those in the story. But there might be people in your own life who you recognize in these scriptures.

So this year, I ask you: who are the people in your life who inhabit a part of this story? Who are the elder statesmen or the wise women or the people who bring you good news? Who are the blue collar workers in out of the way places, the young mothers and the newborns, toddlers and kids with whom you interact? Who are the lowly folks, forgotten by society, and those whose voices are filled with praise? Who follows the signs of God’s love and power?

We prepare for the celebration of the Christ Child in many ways, not the least of which is remembering and telling the story. But we must never forget that Christ’s story is also alive in us—and in the lives surrounding us. Take a moment this season and tell someone the part of the story you see in them. Prepare to see Christ and to meet him again...every day!



DECEMBER

CALENDAR

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

*** Starred * Events Happen Each Week**

Saturday December 1

*9:00-11:00am FreeStore Shopping each Saturday

Sunday December 2 Hanging of the Greenery

9:15am Sunday School for all ages

10:30am Worship Service

11:30am SPRC meeting - Parlor

Monday December 3

6:00pm Church World Service - NEW Room

*10:00am-1:00pm - Freestore Accepting Donations

*6:30pm Austin Harmony - Choir room

Tuesday December 4

*9:30am-12:30pm English Class - FHL

10:00am BIF - Pearce

Wednesday December 5

*11:00am-1pm FreeStore Shopping

*7:00pm Choir Rehearsal

Thursday December 6

*9:30am-12:30pm English Class - FHL

Friday December 7

*10:00am-1:00pm - Freestore Accepting Donations

*6:00pm Girl Scouts - Believer's Room & Gym

Saturday December 8

8:30am-10:30am - Youth Volunteer at Freestore

Sunday December 9 Pancake Breakfast

9:15am Sunday School for all ages

10:30am Worship Service

11:30am Trustees - Pearce

5:00-7:00pm Youth Group - Youth Room/Gym

Monday December 10 Jan. Newsletter Content DUE

6:30pm Finance Team - Pearce

Tuesday December 11

10:00am Reading & Library - Children's Library

6:00pm Wesley Board - Pearce

Wednesday December 12

Thursday December 13

9:30am-12:30pm English Class - FHL*Last Class

4:00pm-6:15pm Girl Scouts - Believer's

Friday December 14

2:00-7:30pm - Wesley School Rehearsal - Sanct.

6:00pm - Wesley School Program - Sanctuary

Saturday December 15

Sunday December 16 Christmas Cantata

9:15am Sunday School for all ages

10:30am Worship Service

Monday December 17

Tuesday December 18

Wednesday December 19

Thursday December 20

7:00pm Bread Church - Gym

9:00pm Youth Group - Gym

Friday December 21

****FreeStore Closed the week of Christmas**

Saturday December 22

Sunday December 23

9:15am Sunday School for all ages

10:30am Worship Service

****Office Closed For the Holidays Dec. 24th & 25th**

Monday December 24 Christmas Eve

7:00pm Candlelight Christmas Eve Service

Tuesday December 25 Christmas Day

Wednesday December 26

Thursday December 27

Friday December 28

Saturday December 29

11am-5pm Private Event - Gym

Sunday December 30

9:15am Sunday School for all ages

10:30am Worship Service

11:45am Widows Helping Others - Pearce

Monday December 31

Office Closed January 1st for New Year's Day

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



December Birthdays

- 2nd Sandra Bissett
Ron Frederick
Norma Hauser
Charlyne Schmidt
- 3rd Caitlyn Dennig-Bailey
- 5th Drianna Gonzales
Sharon Owens
- 7th Don Mohler
Paula Garner
Harry Pomerleau
- 12th Evelyn Capps
- 13th Michael Moore
- 15th Susan Froebel
- 17th Michael Shelton, Jr.
- 19th Kel Pomerleau Bills
- 22nd Lilia Gail Mohler
Jamie Alexander Carl Dahan
J.D. Dahan
- 26th Mark Corry
Laurie Dennig
- 27th Wanda Anderson
Thomas Bissett
- 28th George Berglund



CHRISTMAS LOVE
GIFT
FOR OUR CHURCH
STAFF



It's that time of year when we get the opportunity to show appreciation to our wonderful church staff. As each of you know, we are truly blessed to have such a hard-working and loyal group of people making sure that our church follows its mission. As in the past, we will collect gifts from members and friends and then present our love gift to each staff member. All money collected will be evenly divided among our staff of six. If you wish to participate, please mail your check made out to the church **designating it "Staff Love Gift" or put your check or cash gift in the offering in an envelope marked "Staff Love Gift"**. Please get your gift to the church by December 16, in order for us to present it by Christmas. Thank you for your participation in letting our staff know how much we appreciate what they do for our church all year long.

Kendall Smith SPRC Chairperson



The office will be closed Christmas Eve & Christmas Day and New Year's Day. Light coverage from Dec. 26th-Jan. 31st resuming regular office hours on January 3, 2018.

Pastor Cynthia can be reached by phone all week at 512-921-3473





Poinsettias Order Form

Poinsettias will be placed in the Chancel, December 23rd. Cut off date Dec. 14th

2017 POINSETTIA ORDER - \$10 each Deadline Dec. 14th Order Now!

From Whom	How Many	In Honor of or In Memory of	Donate	Keep

The Newsletter

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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