

# The Newsletter

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

Find us on Facebook at

Memorial United Methodist Church-Austin

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#### In this issue:

News from the Pews.....	2
Announcements.....	3
Sunday School & Girl Scouts.....	4
Pastor's Corner/Free Store.....	5
February Calendar & Birthdays.....	6-7
Partner Non-Profit.....	8

## February 2017



### February 4th

9:30am-3:30pm

Bethany UMC

Rethink Leadership

### February 12th

After Worship in the Gym

**\*Volunteers Needed!**



### MUMC WELCOMES



## NEWS FROM PEWS

By **Billie Nixon**

**Membership Coordinator**



Nov. 17, 1927-Dec. 22, 2016

**In Memory of**

## **Lester Boyd Bryant**

Lester Boyd Bryant, loving husband, father and grandfather, passed away December 22, 2016 at the age of 92. He was born November 17, 1924 to Jewell Thompson and James Oscar Bryant. Raised on a farm in Reagan, Texas, Lester attended Reagan public school and graduated in 1942.

He was employed at Safeway a short time before being inducted into the army and served three years in the Signal Corp during World War II in England, France, and Germany. Lester returned to the States in March 1946 and resumed employment with Safeway where he met Annie Clyde Lowry. They were married in 1948 and had two children: Deborah Kay Bryant and Gary Allen Bryant. He was Store Manager for thirty-five years in Waco and in Austin. After retiring in 1987, he and Ann took many trips together.

Lester is survived by his wife Ann of 68 years and by children Deborah and Gary, daughter-in-law Joy and grandchildren Bailey and Chancellor. He was active in Memorial United Methodist Church for many years and a member of the University Area Kiwanis Club for over fifty years.

Visitation was from 6:00-7:00 pm at Cook-Walden Funeral Home, 6100 North Lamar Blvd, Austin, Texas on Tuesday, December 27, 2016. Funeral service was held on Wednesday, December 28, 2016 at 10:00 am at Memorial United Methodist Church, 6100 Berkman Drive, Austin, Texas 78723. Burial followed at Cook Walden Capital Parks Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, memorials can be made to Memorial United Methodist Church or charity of your choice.



## NEW ARRIVALS



We are so happy to announce the birth of another boy to the family of J.D. & Elizabeth Dahan. He is Jamie Alexander Carl Dahan born 12/22/16 weighing in at 10lbs 6oz. He has 2 older brothers: Jack Kaylen Dahan almost 11 years old, and Julian Felix Beau a big 3 year old in March. And of course, congratulations to Aunt Susan Froebel as well.

We at Memorial are blessed to have you in our worship services and pray for good health, love and happiness to each of you.



## Pew Crosses For Sale \$25

Last year, Pat Marcum decided to try an experiment with the extra pieces of the pews we had dismantled in

order to make our new sound booth. He fashioned crosses from them.

We now have these crosses for sale in either a free-standing form or a wall-hanging form. They are \$25 apiece, and all funds will go to updates to the sanctuary (like the carpeting). This is a beautiful opportunity to have a piece of Memorial in your home. Please contact the church office for more information on getting your own cross (512-452-5796).



### Clayton-Favela

Jessica Clayton and Sergio Favela announce their plans for a Valentine's Day wedding in Austin, Texas.

Miss Clayton is the daughter of Ron and Susan Clayton of Mullinville, KS and Sharon Smith of Cedar Park, Texas.

Mr. Favela is the son of Maria-Conception and Hector Favela of Durango, Durango, Mexico.

The wedding is scheduled for 7pm on February 14, 2017 at the Memorial United Methodist Church in Austin, Texas.

**The couple would like to invite the Memorial family to join them at the ceremony. There will not be a traditional reception after the ceremony, so no RSVP is needed.**

Well wishes may be sent to 11624 Melstone Dr. Manor, TX 78653.



## Chili Cook-Off Sunday, February 12th Gym - Noon

Tickets are \$6 for adults and \$4 for children age 2-12. Perfect your favorite recipe and cook a pot for all to enjoy! A sign-up sheet for volunteers and cooks will be on the back table in the sanctuary, or call Wanda Adams at (512) 439-9432 to sign-up. Tickets will be available Sundays and in the office during posted office hours. Proceeds defray transportation costs when the Rainbow Class ladies attend UMC-sponsored Kingdom Kamp over the 2017 Labor Day weekend at Cathedral Oaks Retreat Center near Weimar, Texas.



PLEASE NOTE WE ARE  
CHANGING TO 2ND  
SUNDAY!



**Come join your church family for a pancake breakfast every 2nd Sunday.**

**February 12th  
8:30am Gym**

# SUNDAY SCHOOL



Our Kid's Sunday School had a blast in January learning stories about Jesus after his birth, including a visit by the wise men and his baptism. Pictured is Billie Nixon with one of their projects—a River Jordan cupcake! If you're age 5 and up, come on out and join them in the gym at 9:15 every Sunday morning!

## Youth

- ◆ Sign up today for REVIVE Winter Youth Retreat February 3-5, 2017 at Camp Eagle.
- ◆ Join the Capital District Youth on a vibrant Midwinter themed "ROOTED". We will be spending the weekend of February 24-26, 2017 at Camp Tejas in Giddings, TX in fellowship with other youth.



## Girl Scout Troop 172



Remember cookie sales began January 18 with some new flavors to try. Contact Alberta for more info! Sales end: Feb. 26th



## 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 or would like to receive some tips and tricks for how to do it more effectively, please let the office know, and Pastor Cynthia would be happy to speak with you. You can also speak directly to Connie Tatom, our scheduler, to be on the list of readers and pray-ers!



## 2017 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. Bouquets are \$20.00 each - two maximum per Sunday. Stop and signup today.*

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**  
**Feb. 16 th**  
**7pm Gym Kitchen**

**Dear Memorial  
Family—**



## *Pastor's Corner*

We are delighted to let you know that after votes from the leadership of MUMC, the Austin FreeStore is moving to Memorial!

The Austin FreeStore is run by Common Good Community Development, Inc, which is a ministry of the Capital District. The FreeStore has an umbrella organization because eventually they hope to include many other programs under their umbrella. The timeline for them being with us (right now, somewhere between 2-3 years) will give them time to contemplate in what ways they can be most helpful in the greater Austin community. Their eventual goal is to find or build property that fits who they have become.

For those of you unfamiliar with the FreeStore, it was modeled after the original FreeStore in Columbus, OH, also run by the United Methodist Church in the area. People from the area make donations (mostly clothing, but includes books, household items, the occasional piece of technology, appliance or large piece of furniture), and all of the items are free for shoppers. Any person is eligible to become a member of the FreeStore, though there are necessary monthly limits on the number of pieces of clothing an individual or family may receive.

The purpose of the FreeStore is obviously not to raise money for anything, but is instead to foster intentional and creative relationships. While people are waiting to shop, volunteers are there to show hospitality and hear stories and build relationships. This has proven to be highly successful in the FreeStore's former location on 12<sup>th</sup> Street, and because we have developed so many relationships with community organizations and people within them, we see great potential for this to be a good match. In addition, the FreeStore will be looking for opportunities to partner with us to fund ministry and potentially invest in who we hope to become as a congregation.



We will be working out the shopping hours and volunteer hours and space possibilities over the next few weeks. We have had multiple discussions both internally with the leadership as to our needs and hopes and externally with FreeStore representatives as to their needs and hopes. We believe we have a solid plan for dealing with the security of our Wesley School. We know that there may be bumps ahead, and we will be asking for feedback.

In the end, we believe the FreeStore represents a way for us to be in creative community with other United Methodists and with our neighbors—helping each one to discover the giftedness they need to share and each one to discover their needs for the gifts of others and of God. The Austin FreeStore began its journey in this area six years ago when it held its first event in our gym. We welcome them back to their first home.

*Cynthia Kepler-Harrer*



Pastor Cynthia would like to gather groups of people who are interested in Bible study or in studies on discipleship in the United Methodist church in the New Year. If you are interested in either a 6-9 week Bible study or a 6 session (meeting every other week) discipleship study, please contact the office with your name and which night/day times are available for you. 512-452-5796



# FEBRUARY CALENDAR

## **Wednesday, February 1**

7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal - Choir room

## **Thursday, February 2**

9:00 am -1:30 pm ESL classes - Parlor

## **Friday, February 3**

## **Saturday, February 4**

12:00pm– 3:00pm Girl Scout Area Meeting

9:30-3:30pm Bethany UMC Rethink Leadership

## **Sunday, February 5**

9:15 am Sunday School for all ages

10:30 am Worship Service

11:30 am Trustees

## **Monday, February 6**

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, February 7**

9:00 am -1:30 pm ESL classes - Parlor

9:30 am BIF - Pearce

## **Wednesday, February 8**

7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal

## **Thursday, February 9**

9:00 am -1:30 pm ESL classes - Parlor

7:00 pm– 9:00pm Austin Ukulele Society - Gym

## **Friday, February 10**

## **Saturday, February 11**

10am Windsor Park Neighborhood Assoc. –FHL

## **Sunday, February 12 Chili Cook off**

8:30 am Pancake Breakfast - Gym

9:15 am Sunday School for all ages

10:30 am Worship Service

12:00pm Chili Cook Off - Gym

## **Monday, February 13**

6:30 am Morning Prayer -Chapel

6:00 pm Girl Scouts - Gym area

6:30 pm Austin Harmony - Choir room

6:30 pm Finance Team - Pearce

7:00 pm Boy Scouts - Gym area

## **Tuesday, February 14 Valentine's Day**

9:00 am - 1:30 pm ESL classes - Parlor

6:00 pm Wesley Board - Pearce

7:00pm Clayton/Favela Wedding \* All Invited

## **Wednesday, February 15**

7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal - Choir room

## **Thursday, February 16**

### **(March Newsletter Content Deadline)**

9:00 am -1:30 pm ESL classes - Parlor

10:00 am Reading and Library - Anderson Chapel

7:00 pm Bread Church - Gym

## **Friday, February 17**

## **Saturday, February 18**

## **Sunday, February 19**

9:15 am Sunday School for all ages

10:30 am- Worship Service

## **Monday, February 20**

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, February 21**

9:00 am - 1:30 pm ESL classes - Parlor

10:00 am Honeybees - Anderson Chapel

6:00 pm NAMI Support - Pearce

## **Wednesday, February 22**

7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal

## **Thursday, February 23**

9:00 am - 1:30 pm ESL classes - Parlor

**(Continued Page 7)**

**Friday, February 24**

**Saturday, February 25**

10am-12pm Council Member Ora Houston's  
Community Meeting - Gym

**Sunday, February 26**

9:15 am Sunday School for all ages

10:30 am Worship Service

**Monday, February 27**

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, February 28**

9:00 am - 1:30 pm ESL classes - Parlor



## February Birthdays

- 3rd Christine Jane Garner
- 7th Kayla Michelle Holland  
Davi Teaney
- 8th Mary Bryant
- 11th Mary Beth O'Hanlon
- 12th Stephanie Jourdan
- 13th Mike Pena
- 16th Kamika Alberta Streets
- 18th Jodi Nichole Dennig Sword
- 20th Nancy Helge
- 21st Michael Shelton  
Laurie Strawbridge
- 22nd Jeff Sacco
- 25th Carolyn Chandler Brown
- 26th Zachary Benavides
- 28th Carol Logan



**New Year...**

**New You**

**Drive a Senior**  
Volunteers In Motion

Happy New Year! January is often a time for reflection... it's a New Year, so why not a New You? Whether you are looking to make changes with health, fitness, education, or volunteering, change can be both exciting and difficult.

Drive a Senior-Senior Access serves East Austin, Hutto, Pflugerville, and Round Rock and is a local non-profit that provides free transportation for people 60 and older through volunteers. These volunteers (who drive in their community) provide transportation to doctor offices, grocery stores, community centers, and other errands. But, transportation is not the only benefit of providing a ride. Friendships are formed, social connections made, and emotional needs met.

Meet Lera and Tapestry. They met when Tapestry signed up to give a ride to Lera. Little did they know a relationship would grow. Lera, who is 95, is an avid painter and enjoys life. Tapestry is a young mom with an elementary school age son, Brody. Brody has



“adopted Lera” as his senior grandparent. They enjoy going to the Round Rock Express games together and he even organized a painting group with his friends that Lera taught and helped to organize her 95th birthday party. This amazing connection is one of many that happens with our volunteers and senior clients. What a special bond they share.

If part of your “New You” plan includes volunteering, why not consider Drive a Senior? Contact Sherrie at

**512 310 1060 or [www.driveasenior.org](http://www.driveasenior.org)**



2017 CROP Hunger Walk, will take place on Sunday afternoon, February 26<sup>th</sup>, beginning at 2 pm, at Camp Mabry. I hope to see some of my MUMC friends at Mabry on the 26<sup>th</sup>!

Kevin Murphy,

Community Engagement Specialist

Church World Service 512-553-1671



# The Newsletter



## February Is....

- American Heart Month
- Black History Month
- Canned Food Month
- Creative Romance Month
- Great American Pie Month
- National Cherry Month
- National Children's Dental Health Month
- National Grapefruit Month
- National Weddings Month



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