

The Newsletter

July 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

Find us on Facebook at

Memorial United Methodist Church-Austin

Email:

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Phone: 512.452.5796

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July 2018

Independence Day July 4th



Bread Church July 19th



Hello Felicia!



July News From Pews



By **Billie Nixon** **Membership Coordinator**



We are excited to announce that Susan Froebel joined Memorial on May 20, 2018. She came to us by transfer from the Lutheran Church.

Susan has been singing in the choir since the late 90's and has been an active member in all areas of our church.

We welcome you as an official member! May we continue to worship God and commune together.



Thanks to each of you that donated cookies, came to help with Billie Talley's and Cleo Wilson's Services—each of these ladies have worked hard and been leaders in these affairs in the past, I'm sure they're smiling saying 'Thank You' in their hearts. And thanks to those that assisted with the Graduation Reception. I especially appreciate your time and effort!



Love & concern go out to Tom and Pricilla Bissett in the death of Mitchell Crisp of Kingsbury, TX. Mitchell was Pricilla's brother. Injured in the same accident were his son, Tommy Crisp and his nephew, Joe Joslyn. Tommy has been moved from Dell to Ronald McDonald House and Joe is walking with assistance and hopes to be moved soon to Dell.

We at Memorial do care and we will continue to pray for a speedy and complete recovery for these fine young men.

Peggy Sismilich, our retired financial secretary, in the death of her sister in law, Carol Fleming wife of Peggy's brother, Travis M. Fleming Jr. of Marble Falls.

We pray that you and your family are blessed by God's comfort.

NEW ARRIVALS



Congratulations to Pat Teaney who has a new granddaughter. Nataleigh Hernandez was born on June 1st to Maurice & Nicole Leigh Hernandez of Austin. She weighed 7lbs & 12 oz. and has an older brother Jamie Cash Hernandez.

Congratulations to Katherine Eaker on the addition to her family. Her 12th grandchild was born on June 11th. Audrey Katherine Ernst born to parents Travis & Ashley Ernst of Frisco, TX. Grandparents are Jim & Judy (Eaker) Dwyer of Frankston, Tx. Audrey weighed 8lbs. 9 oz and was 19.5 inches long. She has a big sister, Ava who was 2 years old in February.

We are so proud to hear the good news and share your bundles of joy with our whole Memorial Family.



By contrast, the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness,²³ gentleness, and self-control. There is no law against such things.²⁴ And those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires.²⁵ If we live by the Spirit, let us also be guided by the Spirit.²⁶ Let us not become conceited, competing against one another, envying one another.

Galatians 5:22-26

Over the 24 years that I have been working in churches and while in seminary, many people have come to me, wanting to know if they were making a good decision or for guidance on what to do. Many times, I have had a clear understanding of direction on behalf of a person, but sometimes, I find myself wondering the same things that they are wondering: How do I know that what I am doing is right?

Several years ago when I was pondering that question, I happened to have this passage in my devotional reading. It occurred to me that along with scriptures that encourage us to “test the spirits” (1 John 4:1, for example), this comes close to helping me discern as anything I had ever thought about.

At first, I understood the passage to refer to the fruits that were produced in me or the person deciding directly related to those decisions. But more and more prominently, I believe that those are the fruits that are produced in the community where the implications of the decisions take place. Fruit doesn't just grow inside us for us. Fruit grows inside us and is then shown and shared (our “witness”) to the rest of our community and world.

Immediately before this passage, Paul does two things—he reminds the Galatians that they have been set free from all of the litmus tests (including circumcision) that people would use to say that they were a Christian. But he also says that freedom from those litmus tests doesn't mean we can do anything and still follow Christ. Among the “works of the flesh”, he lists such

things as envy, factions, jealousy, quarrels, idolatry and anger. If we look at our communities today, there are churches, households, cities, companies and interest groups that all are powered and motivated by such fruits.

How is the church going to be different? What is the use in being different if it just means we lose out all the time? Won't that let people run over us and take advantage of us?

The answer is possibly...or maybe even probably. Paul says we have crucified the flesh with its desires. Learning to follow Christ, even to the places where we seem weak or soft-hearted, is a part of the discipline of giving up our lives to the redeeming love of Christ.

It also leads us to a place where we don't have to compete for God's love or for the things that we need. It doesn't mean that we are no longer compelled to share the Good News (whether in word or deed)—it simply means that our faithfulness is not a project where there are winners and losers. The fruits of the Spirit are there for us to delight in and to bear witness to those who are still convinced that the works of the flesh are all that matter.

What is your life producing? What happens when you read a newspaper or watch the news? What happens when you make a decision or go to a family outing? Are there litmus tests you still use to decide about people? Or do you look for the fruits of their lives and make decisions about what will produce good fruit in yours?

Synthia Kepler-Harrer





JULY 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**

Sunday July 1 Communion

9:15am Sunday School for all ages

10:30am Worship Service

Monday July 2

{Monday Morning Prayer Time is on hiatus}

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

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

*6:30pm Austin Harmony - Choir room

Tuesday July 3

* 9:00am-12:00pm Citizenship Class - Parlor

Wednesday July 4 Office & FreeStore Closed

Thursday July 5

* 9:00am-12:00pm Citizenship Class - Parlor

Friday July 6

*7:30am-6:00pm Private Camp - Gym/Field

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

Saturday July 7

*9am-11am Free Store Shopping - Gym

Sunday July 8

9:15am Sunday School for all ages

10:30am Worship Service

11:30am Trustees - Pearce

Monday July 9 Wesley School Closed thru 13th

Tuesday July 10

6:30pm Wesley Board - Pearce

Wednesday July 11

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

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

Thursday July 12

7:00pm Austin Ukulele Society - Gym

Friday July 13

7pm-10pm Austin Ukulele Workshop - Parlor

Saturday July 14

10am Windsor Park Neighborhood Assoc. - FHL

Sunday July 15 August Newsletter Content Due

9:15am Sunday School for all ages

10:30am Worship Service

Monday July 16

Tuesday July 17

Wednesday July 18

6:30pm Choir Welcome Back Potluck - TBA

Thursday July 19

7:00pm Bread Church - Gym

Friday July 20

Saturday July 21

Sunday July 22

9:15am Sunday School for all ages

10:30am Worship Service

Monday July 23

Tuesday July 24

Wednesday July 25

7:00pm Choir Rehearsal Resumes - Choir Room

Thursday July 26

Friday July 27

Saturday July 28

2:00pm-6:00pm Private Party - Gym

Sunday July 29—Pastor Cynthia on vacation following worship through August 8th

Monday July 30

Tuesday July 31

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





July Birthdays

- 2nd Brian Euwer
- 3rd Mark McFarland
- 15th Katherine Eaker
Gail Mohler
Charles Batts
- 16th Betty Sampler
- 18th Darin Williams Jr.
- 22nd Billie Florence Lois Nixon
- 23rd Kim Gray
- 24th William Friedrich
- 28th Gloria McPhail
- 31st Tyler Joshua Moore
John F. Nixon
Shirley Wehmer



NEW DIRECTORY!

PLEASE send updated information either by email or drop a clearly printed note in the offering plate or secretary office with your name, email address, cell/home number & mailing address so that we may print a new directory with updated information. Thank You!

secretary@memorialumcaustin.com

CHANCEL CHOIR RETURNS July 25th > Potluck July 18th



We will have our back-to-choir potluck on July 18th location TBA. Any interested members of the congregation are encouraged to come and hear about fall plans for the choir.

Youth Ministry Update



We are so excited to welcome Felicia Hefney this month! She had a great visit with us in early June, and she is preparing to get connected to a lot of our community organizations as well as get to know the youth of our neighborhood. Remember that we have received a generous donation which will cover about 80% of our funding needs for Felicia, who will be with us for the next 3 years. If you wish to contribute to this vital work in the church, please contact the office at 512-452-5796 or speak with Pastor Cynthia or Kendall Smith (our head youth volunteer) about getting a pledge card.



Bread Church
Thursday
7pm
July 19th in the Gym

2018 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 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.



Pew Crosses For Sale \$25

Pat Marcum fashioned crosses from the dismantled pews.

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).



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!

Online Giving

TITHES & OFFERINGS

Give back to the one who first gave

LEARN MORE

www.MemorialUMCAustin.com

CWS and Natural Disasters



I recently had a conversation with a pastor in Austin. The pastor asked how Church World Service planned to respond to the devastating volcanic eruption in Guatemala. My answer, for the moment, was "wait."

Wait? A major disaster – a killing disaster – had taken place and CWS was "waiting"? I had a great conversation with that pastor, and, when kc's note came about the newsletter deadline, I thought I'd share with you about waiting.

To say that CWS is waiting is not to say that CWS is doing nothing. We have a strong partnership with the Council of Evangelical Churches of Guatemala (CIEDEG). Our team works with CIEDEG to strengthen the food security and income-generating activities of 700 members of local indigenous associations.

CIEDEG communities were not, thankfully, directly impacted by the volcanic eruptions. Right now, CIEDEG is in conversations across Guatemala to determine its role in relief efforts. At the point where an action plan is developed, many international organizations – including CWS – will provide assistance.

So, the nutshell is: 1). CWS works in partnership; 2). CWS honors the ability of local people to determine the kind of assistance that makes the most sense; 3). CWS works cooperatively with other international NGOs, through ACT (Action of Churches Together) to make sure each NGO's strength is maximized.

Kevin Murphy, Community Engagement Specialist
Church World Service



Help Deliver Meals in your Neighborhood! We have a high need for summertime substitute drivers; delivery routes take one hour or less; additional sites open all over Austin. Call us today! 512-476-6325

Thanks!

Denise Jimenez

Director of Volunteer Services

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!



The Wesley School

Volunteer Opportunities (not with children)
July 7th & 8th and July 14th & 15th
Contact Miracle Mosley at 512-467-9740
or Patty Marcum at 512-913-0945



Are you ready to DIVE IN? Dive in to what? To summer? To kids home from school? To the heat? To vacations? To grandkids? To gardens? To VOLUNTEERING?

This summer Senior Access asks you to DIVE INTO VOLUNTEERING! There are countless reasons why we can suggest you volunteer: teach your children, reinforce social skills, help teenagers grow and



develop, it is a good cause, etc. However, the reality is that the need for volunteer drivers is great. More and more non-driving seniors are needing help every day.

DIVE IN and help your senior neighbor today. Contact Sherrie Rose to volunteer or for more information at 512 310 1060 or vr@senioraccesstx.org.



Shopping Hours

Wednesdays
11am-1pm
and Saturdays
9am-11am



Monday,
Wednesday,
Friday 10am-
1pm and
Saturdays 8:30am-11am
In Gym (not the office)

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This year's 90 + Ice Cream Social has been moved to August 12th in the Parlor at 2:30pm-4:30pm!



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