

# The Newsletter

## 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 Worship

Find all our Newsletters on our

Web site: [www.memorialumcaustin.com](http://www.memorialumcaustin.com)

Find us on Facebook at

Memorial United Methodist Church-Austin

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# July 2020

With the recent rise in cases and especially in hospitalizations, we are in a holding pattern for worship. Staying with the three



options (online streaming, email and packet mailout) allows us to continue to monitor the trajectory of infections. Once we begin to see a sustained (over two week) fall in the number of hospitalizations, we will begin making plans to return to some form of in-person worship.

**IF YOU ARE HAVING PROBLEMS** accessing worship online or not getting emails, *please* let us know! We do not intend to leave anyone out of accessing our worship offerings.

*BUT*—we will be doing some special events in July, including a hymn-sing with hymn stories on July 5 and a communion distribution sometime that month (details are still being worked out).

In addition, we are pleased to announce that because of the electrical storm last October which affected our organ, insurance is helping us get the pipe organ refurbished and transformed. While it will still remain the same pipe organ, some of the safety features will actually allow us to record hymns on it so that we can have the pipe organ played even when no organist is available! The work should be complete somewhere around August/September.

Thank you so much for staying connected to us and to one another during this time. This newsletter is weighted in favor of our pastoral announcements, but there is more news on the back page!

**For instructions about how to worship online see May 2020 Newsletter.**



Hanna Smith, daughter of Laura and Kendall Smith graduated from Baylor University on May 15 with a Bachelor of Arts and Sciences in Journalism. She will be starting Graduate school at Baylor in the fall pursuing her Masters in Journalism. She is currently the Social Media Manager for Common Grounds in Waco, Texas.



Emily Anne Egbert, daughter of Minda and Barry Egbert, sister of Hannah and granddaughter of Nancy and Carl Helge, graduated from East View HS in Georgetown, Tx. on May 30, 2020. She is in the top 10% of her class and will be attending the University of Texas at Austin to major in mechanical engineering. She was a member of NHS, lettered in ladies' golf and

participated in the Aerospace program. Emily was sad to miss so much of her senior year but is looking forward to an exciting future!

Grant Walker-Zapalac, son of Shawn Zapalac and John Allen & Tina Nixon, grandson of Billie & John Nixon, graduated from Bastrop High School with highest honors in academics and football on local and district levels. Grant has special skills and abilities in athletics and leadership capacities. He achieves respect from a variety of disciplines and ages.

He plans to work in the family businesses and develop his own clothing design company.

He enjoys being with his family and friends,




working, and working out. But his true love is PLAYING FOOTBALL!! Though, he remains undecided about accepting a college football scholarship.

He is a member of Memorial United Methodist Church and was baptized there in January 2012. Grant loves the Lord. His favorite scripture is Luke 23:43, "And Jesus said unto him, Verily I say unto thee, Today shalt thou be with me in paradise".

### Congratulations to our Known Graduates


We are proud of you, honored to watch you grow up and to follow your achievements!

If you have a graduate you wish to be honored, please contact Billie Nixon.



# July Birthdays

2nd	Brian Euwer
3rd	Mark McFarland
4th	United States of America
14th	Elizabeth Froebel Dahan
15th	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



Email office to see how you can help celebrate this momentous event.



**Curtis Louis Peschke**, of Austin, father of Kathy

Reinhart, passed away May 29, 2020 after a long battle with chronic lung disease and dementia. Born November 9, 1926 to Louis Herman and Louise Bertha Brugdorf Peschke on the family farm in Grassyville, Texas and attended school in Paige.

Curtis grew up with a love of working with his hands and gardening. Curtis enlisted in the Army and served in post-war Germany with the military police guarding motor pools. After returning to Grassyville he married Margaret Alvina Wusterhausen on November 27, 1949, and their union was blessed with three children, Kenneth, Kathy, and Janice.

The funeral service was at 10:00 AM June 4, 2020 at Weed-Corley-Fish North Chapel Austin. Burial followed at Austin Memorial Park.



**Carolyn "Becky" Chandler Brown** was born on February 25, 1936 in Cameron, Texas and passed away on June 13, 2020 in Austin, Texas and is under the care of Cook-Walden Funeral Home. The family held private services to honor and remember her.

**Keith Stanley Schmidt**, age 62, passed away June 17, 2020. He was born with his twin sister in Austin, Texas on August 28, 1957 to Charlyne and Howard Schmidt. Family was the most important thing in Keith's life and he was a dedicated and protective son and brother. He was born into a large family of six children as well as a larger family of aunts, uncles and cousins in the Austin and Houston areas. He was always proud of being a 6th generation German Texan as well as his Pfluger Family heritage.



Keith grew up in Northeast Austin and graduated from John H. Reagan High School in 1976. He was a true Austinite and enjoyed live music, the Austin party

scene in the 70's, and the beautiful Central Texas outdoors. He had life-long friends that he ran with when Austin was a small town and loved this city so much. He was a great dancer and enjoyed going to all the clubs in Austin, most recently disco nights at the Iron Cactus. Many days of his youth were spent motor-cross racing, boating on Lake Travis and camping at Paleface Park, South Padre, and Bastrop. He was also a talented artist and spent hours drawing and painting amazing artwork. Keith was friendly, outgoing and was admired for his bigger than life personality as long as you didn't mess with his sisters.

Keith was an incredibly clever person who used his industrious creativity in every aspect of his life. He was a master carpenter and highly skilled in many areas. He built so many structures in Austin that it's impossible to name them all. He could literally build a house from the ground up, put a roof on it and then build a fence around it. Keith loved to cook – especially barbeque! Nothing made him happier than hanging out while smoking a brisket and listening to country music. His talents didn't stop at the pit – he could cook anything. Keith looked forward to and enjoyed planning and preparing our weekly Thursday night dinners at our family homestead.

Keith had a very spiritual, compassionate, and loving heart. He was a forgiving man and always the first to ask for forgiveness. He dearly loved his friends and family and reached out to them constantly. He also lovingly cared for our sweet Mom until her death last September. We will all miss his reminders telling us to check out a beautiful full moon or an incoming storm as well as his nightly calls and texts wishing us goodnight.

Keith is preceded in death by his Mother Charlyne Schmidt, Father Howard Schmidt, and his younger sister, Rebecca Jean Schmidt Ray. He is survived by Step-Mother Marty Schmidt, Brother, Randy Schmidt, and wife Becky; Sister Debbie Parsley, and husband Blayne; Twin Sister Kerry McFarland; Sister Lisa Moseley, and husband Philip, Step-brother Greg Kieschnick and wife Laura, and Step-sister Beth Patterson and husband Sam. He is also survived by many nieces and nephews that he loved deeply. We know Keith would want us to mention his life-long friends Jill Jackman, Kathi Girod, Jay Ledbetter, James Guerrero, Scott Witter, Larry Blalock and especially David Reneau for their true friendships throughout his life. Keith's unapologetic sense of humor and loving spirit will stay with us forever.

Visitation was held on June 22<sup>nd</sup> at Cook-Walden Funeral Home 6100 N. Lamar, Austin, Tx 78752. Services were held June 23<sup>rd</sup> at 11:00 a.m. at Calvary Worship Center, 14901 Burnet Road, Austin, Tx 78728. Graveside Services were at Austin Memorial Park 2800 Hancock Drive, Austin, Tx 78731

**Love, prayers and condolences go out to each of these families for your loss, from everyone here at Memorial.**

# July Newsletter

## ***Read and Respond***

During the normal summers, a few of our members would be planning on attending Mission U, a summer intensive study sponsored by the United Methodist Women. The Spiritual study for this summer was to be *Finding Peace in an Anxious World*. If you are interested in reading the book or participating in a “remote” set of activities, please call or email the office.



In addition, people in the neighborhood (most unconnected to the church) are beginning to talk about race and racial justice. Can Memorial UMC connect to our neighbors through these conversations? Pastor Cynthia is going to be walking personally through the book *So You Want to Talk About Race* by Ijeoma Oluo with anyone who wants to participate. This can be a one-on-one conversation, or it is possible to work out some larger conversations. Please call or email the office if interested.

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