

The Newsletter

July 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:

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July 2017

Independence Day

July 4th



Bread Church

July 20th



90+ Ice Cream Social

July 23rd



July News From Pews



By **Billie Nixon**

Membership Coordinator

John & I have 3 children & their spouses, 7 grandchildren, 3 step grandchildren and 3 great grandchildren. All of them (except 2 grandsons & their families) were either in the wedding themselves or were in attendance.

A wonderful time was had by all and many happy memories were made and won't be soon forgotten.



Sunday, June 4, 2017 was a glorious day both weather and events.

Romeo Favela-Clayton, son of Jessica Clayton & Sergio Favela, and

brother to Sebastian Favela-Clayton, was baptized with many family members in attendance.

Evan Hernandez, baptized on his 1st birthday, son of Norma Lara, brother of Alex and sister Stephanie, who was one of our graduates that was honored that day.

Baptism is much more than 'infant dedication'. When children are baptized, the parents and the church are dedicated. We are dedicated as instruments of God's love and grace so that our children might grow in grace, and we at Memorial pledge to help teach and share in each child's education and love of God.

Congratulations! We love and care for each of you.



Births

Jane Friedrich was excited to share the good news about her first great grandchild.

Andrew & Mindy Friedrich had their first child born June 14, 2017 at 3am. We welcome Julia Logan Friedrich.

Andrew known as "Drew" is the son of Richard & Judy Friedrich and Richard is the son of Jane & Logan (deceased) Friedrich.

This news is very exciting, especially because the Friedrich's have been at this church since the beginning, when it started in 1958. And we have watched Richard grow up here, marry Judy and watched them raise their three sons here... and NOW- another generation has arrived.

Thank you God for all these wonderful gifts!



Weddings

John & Billie Nixon & other family members just returned to Austin from Albuquerque, N. M. for a wedding.

Our granddaughter, Lauren Dixon, daughter of Deborah Nixon Dixon & Jerry Dixon, and sister of Evan Dixon from D. C. married Rustin Riley on Saturday, May, 27, 2017 at 4pm at the First United Methodist Church of Albuquerque. Their rehearsal dinner was held on Friday night in Old Town in one of their charming restaurants.

After the wedding everyone adjourned to the Dixon's Casa for cocktails, dinner & dancing. Nearly 300 guests enjoyed every minute of a beautiful setting & perfect weather under the stars.



SAVE THE DATE: AUGUST 6TH
GUEST PLAYERS: AUSTIN
UKULELE CLUB

Pastor's Corner



God doesn't miss anything. He knows perfectly well all the love you've shown him by helping needy Christians, and that you keep at it. And now I want each of you to extend that same intensity toward a full-bodied hope, and keep at it till the finish. Don't drag your feet. Be like those who stay the course with committed faith and then get everything promised to them. Hebrews 6:10-12, The Message

A few months, I wrote about how I was beginning the journey of hand-copying the Bible, one chapter a day, six days a week, as a spiritual discipline. It has been a remarkable practice for me so far, drawing me closer to both the bigger picture and the small details. But we know that life is complicated, and there have been times where I have been unable to finish a whole day's worth of writing, though I have always striven to write at least a few verses each day.

In the middle of Genesis, which is the book I'm working on now, I hit a major snag between just being plain busy and having some chapters that proved harder or more tedious (oh, the genealogies!) to write. Though I was writing every day, I got behind in a major way. Sometimes it was even depressing to think about going to write even a paragraph because it didn't feel like I could get anywhere.

When Paul writes about staying the course and persevering, I think he's talking not just about something like my small speed bump, but the things that really get in the way. What is it that you've been avoiding or just haven't wanted to face? What does it mean to have a full-bodied hope, and are you just avoiding living into that because it's hard work or because you might have to change something about yourself or see someone in a different way?

That is the more difficult work of being a disciple of Jesus Christ. Spiritual disciplines are great, worship is a place to connect with God, service connects us to those outside of ourselves—but in all that, we are always being called to the places of our own pain,

which are much more difficult to abide in than the places we feel competent or more comfortable. Part of what makes it possible for us to walk into those places is a sense that the full-bodied hope we have is not in vain—that forgiveness and repentance and renewal is possible, for *everyone*.

I am slowly catching up to the place that I was scheduled to be on my writing. Currently, I'm on track to finish Genesis by the beginning of next week, right on time. On the days when I could barely find the time to copy out a paragraph or two or when I just looked at the composition notebook that I'm using and got tired, I couldn't have imagined even getting to this place. But acknowledging that I'm not perfect and that sometimes I just have to do what's possible for me to do and keep going was the way to get back on track.

What seems impossible to you? Where do you acknowledge that you can, as we say in baptism, put your whole trust in Christ, and keep going? I pray that you find not just the motivation today, but also the courage and the endurance to face your fear or despair or anger and keep moving to the place of God's grace.

United Methodism Basics Worship Series

For six weeks starting on June 18, Pastor Cynthia will be preaching about the basics of United Methodism. This scripturally based series will cover the five areas in which United Methodists promise to be faithful.

If you would like the opportunity to learn more about the United Methodist Church and go deeper with the content of the sermon series, you can place an order either through the church or on your own for a copy of "A Disciple's Path" reader. The extra readings in this book will offer more perspective and insight. It is available from either Cokesbury (\$6.79 plus shipping) or Amazon (\$8.46 plus shipping or free shipping with Prime). Please let us know if you'd like for us to order a copy.



JULY CALENDAR

Saturday July 1

Every Saturday in July: Free Store Open
9:00am-11:00am Free Store Open for Shopping

Sunday July 2

9:15am Sunday School for all ages
10:30am Worship Service

Monday July 3

6:30am Morning Prayer -Chapel
9:00am-12:00pm Manos de Cristo Class - Parlor
6:00pm Girl Scouts - Believer's Room & Gym
6:30pm Austin Harmony - Choir room
7:00pm Boy Scout Council - Scout Room

Tuesday July 4 Independence Day Office Closed

Wednesday July 5

9:00am-12:00pm Manos de Cristo Class - Parlor
Every Wednesday in July: Free Store Open
11:00am-1:00pm Free Store Open for Shopping

Thursday July 6

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

Friday July 7

Saturday July 8

10am Windsor Park Neighborhood Assoc. - FHL

Sunday July 9 Pancake Breakfast

8:30am Pancake Breakfast - Gym
9:15am Sunday School for all ages
10:30am- Worship Service
11:30am Trustees - Pearce

Monday July 10

6:30am Morning Prayer -Chapel
9:00am-12:00pm Manos de Cristo Class - Parlor
6:00pm Girl Scouts - Believer's Room & Gym
6:30pm Austin Harmony - Choir room

6:30pm Finance Team - Pearce

Tuesday July 11

6:00pm Wesley Board - Pearce

Wednesday July 12

9:00am-12:00pm Manos de Cristo Class - Parlor

Thursday July 13

Friday July 14

Saturday July 15

(August Newsletter Content Deadline)

Sunday July 16

9:15 am Sunday School for all ages
10:30am Worship Service

Monday July 17

6:30am Morning Prayer -Chapel
9:00am-12:00pm Manos de Cristo Class - Parlor
6:00pm Girl Scouts - Believer's Room & Gym
6:30pm Austin Harmony - Choir room

Tuesday July 18

Wednesday July 19

9:00am-12:00pm Manos de Cristo Class - Parlor

Thursday July 20

7:00pm Bread Church - Gym

Friday July 21

Saturday July 22

Sunday July 23

9:15 am Sunday School for all ages
10:30am Worship Service
2:30pm 90+ Ice Cream Social - Parlor

Monday July 24

6:30am Morning Prayer -Chapel
6:00pm Girl Scouts - Believer's Room & Gym
6:30pm Austin Harmony - Choir room

Tuesday July 25

Wednesday July 26

Thursday July 27

Friday July 28

Calendar Continued Next Page

Calendar Continued

Saturday July 29

Sunday July 30

Monday July 31



July Birthdays

- 2nd Brian Euwer
- 3rd Mark McFarland
- 12th Dick Moore
- 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

You Are Invited

2:30pm
Parlor

Sunday
July 23rd



To Honor All Members
90+ Years Young!

Pancake Breakfast



Join Your Church
Every 2nd Sunday
of the month for
Pancake Breakfast in
the Gym
July 9th 8:30am



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 July 20th
7pm in the Gym



Pew Crosses For Sale \$25

Last year, 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).



We have been pleased to host a citizenship class through Manos de

Cristo this summer. It will end on July 16, and around 10 people have been diligently studying our governmental systems and history in preparation to take their citizenship exams. They have had mock interviews, and they have felt welcome in our space. Congrats to all of them for finishing their course, and we will pray for your tests! Thank you to Manos de Cristo for their partnership in these ministries.

CHANCEL CHOIR RETURNS IN AUGUST



We will have our back-to-choir potluck on August 9. Any interested members of the congregation are encouraged to come and hear about fall plans for the choir.

We have been blessed to have Dr. David Smalls with us as an occasional clinician this spring, and we hope to continue having special musical guests with us this fall through the generosity of the Moore Music Fund.



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!



Building Use Calendar



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.



Wow! As I write this, the UM Army team is busy around the Memorial campus – painting, painting, and painting. I share in your gratitude to these young men and women (and their adult sponsors!) for taking a week out of their summer making a difference.

You make a difference in mission here at Memorial UMC. I'm always grateful – and impressed – when Harris Elementary kids cross Berkman and head into the church. I'm always grateful – and impressed – as families come into the church to learn English and to have their kids loved on.

And I'm always grateful – and impressed – for your commitment to being in mission globally – whether through UMW, UMCOR and, of course, Church World Service. Gratitude and Mission in Christ. It's what you are all about.

God bless,
Kevin Murphy,
Community Engagement Specialist
Church World Service



Shopping Hours

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

DONATION DROP OFF

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



Lorraine, a client of Drive a Senior-Senior Access shared, "When I moved here from Louisiana, I lost my confidence to drive. I'm most grateful for Drive a Senior. It has given me freedom to come to Grand Adults Day and to go to the hospital and rehabilitation appointments. I've regained my strength and I've gotten my freedom back."

Like Lorraine, we all enjoy being able to take care of ourselves, to have the freedom to go where we need to go, the freedom to choose what we accomplish each day, the freedom to meet with friends.

What comes to your mind when you see the word freedom? Car keys? Money? Transportation? Family? Friends? That word....freedom.... means different things to different people. It also has different meaning at different stages in life. To young kids it may be the longing of growing up and getting out of the parent's home to live on their own. Being independent. To our clients, it may be the longing of being able to leave their own home in order to take care of business, being able to go to appointments, social outings, grocery shopping, and beauty salons.

Just imagine, though, not having that freedom to drive to take care of basic needs, worrying about how to get your groceries or go to that doctor appointment. This is the situation many seniors face when contemplating the choice of giving up their car keys. Because of volunteers like you, you become the portal to the freedom our senior clients need. Thank you!



Please be in prayer
for our
congregation and
friends.

The Newsletter



UM Army Missions at Memorial UMC June 12-14



Thank you to UM Army!
Around 25 high school students came and did painting and landscaping work around Memorial this past week, including purchasing all their own supplies.



A Big Thank You to all who participated in this service. Thank you to Randy Knighten, the FreeStore manager and Brandon Shook who arranged for them to come and do that work! Please commit to praying for these youth as they experience serving!

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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

