

July Newsletter

Memorial United Methodist Church
6100 Berkman Drive Austin TX 78723

Rev. Cynthia Kepler-Karrer - Pastor

Mission: To make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

Vision: A Christian community aspiring to live its mission with passion, generosity, and intentionality.

Sunday Schedule

Sunday School 9:15-10:00 a.m.

Worship - 10:30 a.m.

Web site: www.memorialumcaustin.com

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Memorial United Methodist Church-Austin

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The Newsletter

Independence Day

Thursday July 4th

(Office Closed)



Pancake Breakfast

Sunday 8:30am July 14th



Bread Church

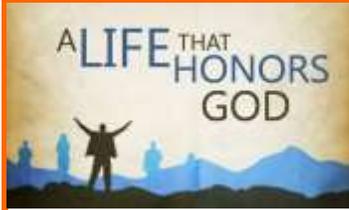
Thursday 7pm July 18th





By **Billie Nixon**

Membership Coordinator



Sunday, June 9, the United Methodist Women honored Zora Mae Hise with a special Missions pin, representing a gift that had been made in her honor to

the mission work that the UMW does all over the world with women and children.

Zora Mae has been a long-time member of not only Memorial UMC, but also the United Methodist Women. She and her late husband, Ross, have always been strong supporters of the regular work as well as special projects that they have taken great delight in at the church.

In addition to participating in the UMW, Zora Mae has shared musical talents, playing her harp for us in years past. She has been a part of many Bible studies (including the Friday morning study) and a member of the Faith, Hope and Love Sunday School class. Her years of teaching school having an effect on her, she would come and make sure the FHL classroom was set up and prepared, and she would stop by the church every week to make sure she had a copy of the prayer list.

Zora Mae recently moved from her home to Westminster Senior Living, and in that move, she decided to stop driving, so she may not be as regular in worship as she has been for the decades that she and Ross have been members of MUMC. The UMW honors Zora Mae for her commitment to God and to her ongoing commitment to make Christ's love more known.

Thank you, Zora Mae, and blessings!

Office Closed Thursday July 4th



Weddings

Happy news! Jimmy Capps, son of Billy & Evelyn Capps was united in marriage to Jennie Jones on May 18, 2019 in their home in Leander, TX. The wedding & reception was attended by family and close friends. Congratulations and Blessings for your union from all at Memorial to the happy couple!

You Are Invited

SAVE THE DATE

Aug. 11th Parlor

2:30pm - 4:30pm

To Honor All Members

90+ Years Young

Come celebrate with us!





- ◆ Sunday July 7 thru Thursday July 11 - REVIVE SUMMER CAMP AT MOUNT WESLEY!
- ◆ NO UMYF MEETINGS IN JUNE AND JULY

Youth Update: GREAT NEWS!

Our new Youth Director, Daphne Turnage, is scheduled to start at Memorial Sunday, July 21st! Daphne is coming to us as a Graduate Resident through the CYMT program that we have been working with since early last year. Daphne is a 26



year-old young woman from Memphis. She graduated from The University of Tennessee, Knoxville. Over the last three years she has been involved in urban ministry with MAM, Memphis Athletic Ministry. She grew up in an area of Memphis where only 20% of students graduate from High School, so it is remarkable that she accomplished this and went on to attend and get her degree from (the other) UT!

As part of CYMT she will be working 25 hours a week at Memorial while also working toward her Masters with a specialization in Youth Ministry. She will also have a veteran Youth Ministry Coach, a “cohort” of other Graduate Residents that she will meet with weekly and other support from CYMT leadership to help her and Memorial be successful in our new youth outreach programs.

Many of you had the privilege of meeting Daphne on her church visit June 16th. Our Youth Council and others also were able to spend additional time with her earlier during that weekend.

Please join us in welcoming her officially to Memorial’s staff on the 21st and celebrate the beginning of this exciting new chapter in Memorial’s ministry to and with our friends and neighbors in northeast Austin!



Help deliver meals to your homebound neighbors! Summer Volunteer Drivers and substitutes needed; delivery routes take one hour or less; additional sites open all over Austin!

Volunteer Opportunities in Austin

It is a gift to serve, and a rare chance to directly help individuals in your community one meal at a time. In addition to lunch time meal-delivery, there are many other ways to serve the elderly and adults with disabilities in greater Austin. Learn more about volunteer opportunities that are flexible with your schedule:

[Meals on Wheels](#)

[Mike's Place](#)

[HOPE](#)

[PALS](#)

[Handy Wheels](#)

[Groceries to Go](#)

www.mealsonwheelscentraltexas.org



Thanks!

Emma Roberts

Volunteer Recruitment Specialist

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Take A Staycation This Year!

What do people do when their finances won't allow a visit to some exotic clime for much-needed rest and relaxation? The answer is easy! They go on a staycation, the latest trend in economically friendly travel. No need to pack your bags - just turn off your phone, forward your emails and unwind at home.

The following are some great ways to enjoy your Staycation:

Pamper Yourself. Take a long, hot bath, give yourself a manicure and pedicure, eat a piece of dark chocolate rich in cancer fighting antioxidants, or spend the day in bed reading your favorite novel or watching your favorite television program.



Be a Tourist in Your Own City. Visit places that you have never been to before. Strap a camera around your neck and snap pictures along the way. Have lunch in a café, deli, or bistro and order a dish that you have never tried before.

Get Outdoors. Take a walk, plant a garden, ride your bike, play Frisbee with the kids, lie in the grass and look up at the stars, build a fort out of cardboard boxes. Do whatever it takes to embrace your inner child.

Improve Yourself. Read up on your favorite topics online, get acquainted with other cultures by listening to their music and cooking their meals, start keeping a journal, play your guitar, hit the gym.

Volunteer. Get to know a part of your community that you're unfamiliar with through volunteering. Not only will you gain a new perspective of the people around you, but you'll feel refreshed and renewed as you help others.

Senior Access provides transportation and other essential services for older seniors who are no longer able to drive for themselves. [If you're looking to volunteer during your staycation, come and help us make a huge difference in someone's life](#) at Senior Access.

If you're interested in volunteering or learning more, contact Sherrie at 512-310-1060 | vr@senioraccessstx.org, or visit our website at www.senioraccessstx.org.



CHURCH WORLD SERVICE

Ration Challenge USA Exceeds Expectations!

Last month, I wrote to you about the Ration Challenge – a new Church World Service initiative to raise awareness about the lives of refugees and raise funds to support CWS work with refugees across the globe. This work includes providing food, medical care and skills training.

Factoid: did you know that there are over 66 million displaced people around the world? Many of these are refugees as a result of natural disaster or human conflict.

CWS has been overwhelmed by the response of individuals across the country – more than 14,000 people signed up to take the Challenge. As I write this, over 9,000 are finishing up the Challenge – 7 days of eating the rations supplied to refugees in camps – during Ration Challenge Week (June 16-23). June 20th is World Refugee Day. The rest of the participants chose another week to engage the Challenge. Ruth and I participated 2 weeks ago and were overwhelmed by the generosity of family, friends and co-workers. Together, we raised more than \$3,000!

CWS anticipates that we will raise well over \$300,000 – contributions will be accepted through mid-August. This is an exciting new venture for CWS and it is truly international in scope – Ration Challenge UK and Ration Challenge Australia are also part of this effort.

Kevin Murphy, Community Engagement Manager

Church World Service

6100 Berkman Dr Austin, TX 78723 888-297-2767 Toll-free

Skype: kmurphycws





When they were together for the last time they asked, “Master, are you going to restore the kingdom to Israel now? Is this the time?” He told them, “You don’t get to know the time. Timing is the Father’s business. What you’ll get is the Holy Spirit. And when the Holy Spirit comes on you, you will be able to be my witnesses in Jerusalem, all over Judea and Samaria, even to the ends of the world.” (Acts 1:6-8, *The Message* paraphrase)

As I have been reading over and preparing to teach and preach the Gospel of Luke, I find myself looking to the end. The Gospel of Luke is well-crafted—even in the introduction, he says that he is going to set out a well-ordered account of the life, death and resurrection of Jesus. So I look for things throughout the Gospel that show where it’s eventually heading.

The passage above is one of those places. It reminds us that everything we’re worried about happening, everything we’ve been promised—well, we don’t need to worry about it. We just need to keep doing what we’ve been called to do: recognize the Holy Spirit in ourselves and in others and be God’s witnesses (i.e. witness to the love and salvation of Christ) everywhere and with everyone.

Simple, right?

I’ve also been reading Nadia Bolz-Weber’s book, *Accidental Saints*. In it, she describes both herself and others and the non-typical ways she is recognizing how God works. God works in people she doesn’t like. God works in people she’s not sure she can trust. God works in people who don’t like or trust her. God works in people who don’t see the world in the way she sees it, and God works in the people she would vote least likely to be a vessel for God at all.

She comments: “There are many reasons to steer clear of Christianity...I fully understand why people make that choice. Christianity has survived some unspeakable abominations: the Crusades, clergy sex-scandals, papal corruption, televangelist scams, and clown ministry. But it will survive us, too. It will survive our mistakes and pride and exclusion of others. I believe that the power of Christianity—the thing that made the very first disciples drop their nets and walk away from everything they knew, the thing that cause Mary Magdalene to return to the tomb and then announce the resurrection of Christ, the thing that the early Christians martyred themselves for...is something that cannot be killed. ... Because in the end, there is still Jesus.” (pg. 10)

Many folks are worried about whether Memorial will survive and thrive into the next decade. Some of us who have been following the tensions in the wider UMC wonder the same about our whole denomination! We wonder if we’re going to have a place.

But I think it’s time to change the question. I think I need to be asking myself: What space am I making for others? Are there some for whom I’m not willing to make a place because I just don’t think they deserve it? Do *I* really deserve it?

I can tell you I don’t. But the Holy Spirit is willing to work with me anyway. And the Holy Spirit is willing to keep on making spaces in us for relationships that might frighten us or unnerve us. The Holy Spirit keeps on pushing us to have space in our congregation for everyone who walks in hoping for grace. The Holy Spirit keeps pushing us to the ends of the world.

Our fire and passion come not from what might keep us safe, but from the Holy Spirit that Jesus set loose on us—that same Holy Spirit that comforts us and challenges us and prepares us, not just to eke out an existence, but to die to our own ways and rise to the wideness of God’s love.

To the ends of the earth!

Outreach Opportunity!

The Andy Roddick Foundation operates a free six-week summer learning program for Harris elementary students. Part of this program is a partnership with Brighter Bites, a nonprofit focused on increasing access to healthy food for families. Each family that attends the summer program receives 50 servings of fresh produce each week from Brighter Bites. Volunteers support the program by sorting produce and assembling it into bags for the families. Volunteers also have a special opportunity to read with a group of students and receive a brief program tour before starting the Brighter Bites project.

We are still seeking groups to support this important part of our program. We have the following dates and times available:

Tuesday, July 2 from 12:30-3:30pm at Harris Elementary (20 volunteers needed)

Call Pastor Cynthia or the church office if you can help with this wonderful program!



JULY 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**

Monday July 1

*6:30pm Austin Harmony - Gym

Tuesday July 2

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

9:30am-11am Wesley School Dance - Gym

10:00am - Bible In Fellowship - Pearce

Wednesday July 3

Thursday July 4 Office Closed

Friday July 5

*6:30pm Girl Scouts #172 - Believer's/Gym

Saturday July 6

Sunday July 7 Communion

9:15am Sunday School for all ages

10:30am Worship Service

**Youth leave for Revive Summer Camp

Monday July 8

Tuesday July 9

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

6:30pm Wesley Board - Pearce

Wednesday July 10

Thursday July 11

* 9am-11am Wesley School Soccer - Gym

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

Friday July 12

Saturday July 13

10am Windsor Park Neighborhood Assoc. - FHL

1pm-4pm Austin Shakespeare - Gym

Sunday July 14 Pancake Breakfast

8:30am Pancake Breakfast - Gym

9:15am Sunday School for all ages

10:30am Worship Service

11:30am Trustees - Pearce

5:30pm-8:30pm Austin Shakespeare - Gym

Monday July 15 August Newsletter Content Due

6:30pm Finance Team - Pearce

7pm-10pm Austin Shakespeare - Gym

Tuesday July 16

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

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

7pm-10pm Austin Shakespeare - Gym

Wednesday July 17

7pm-10pm Austin Shakespeare - Gym

Thursday July 18

9am-12pm Citizenship Class - Parlor - Last Class

7pm-10pm Austin Shakespeare - Gym

7:00pm Bread Church - Gym Kitchen

Friday July 19

7pm-10pm Austin Shakespeare - Gym

Saturday July 20

1pm-5pm Austin Shakespeare - Gym

Sunday July 21

9:15am Sunday School for all ages

10:30am Worship Service

Monday July 22

Tuesday July 23

Wednesday July 24

Thursday July 25

Friday July 26

6-10pm Austin Ukulele Workshop - Parlor

Saturday July 27

Sunday July 28

9:15am Sunday School for all ages

10:30am Worship Service

11:45am WHO Widow Support - Pearce

Monday July 29

Tuesday July 30

Wednesday July 31

*Please Note that these ongoing events are in the same space and on the same day each week, such as: Citizenship Class, Wesley School Soccer, Girl Scouts, Austin Harmony and more.



July Birthdays

- 2nd Brian Euwer
- 3rd Mark McFarland
- 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
Shirley Wehmer




Please be in prayer for our congregation and friends.



2019 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 sign up today!*

NEW! Flower offering envelopes for your altar flower forms. Please fill out forms as soon as you sign up and drop in the secretary office to avoid forgetting or missing your sign up date. Please **don't put forms in White Offering Envelopes**—use our new Flower Envelopes located on the bulletin board & back of sanctuary. Thank you, Kc & Kerry




Join Your Church Every 2nd Sunday of the month in the Gym 8:30am

July 14

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?



July 18th
Bread Church
7PM Gym

July Newsletter



“AND: The Gospel of Luke”

The Gospel of Luke has an expansive view of God’s love! Each week, we discover an “AND” at what we thought was the end of the list of who God is calling. Featuring creative storytelling, colorful images, a way for children to collect their own stories from Luke’s Gospel and “AND: More” (our closer look at each chapter, available as an opportunity for take-home study), this is a great time to invite a friend to worship!

July 7—Luke Chapter 5 (Calling disciples plus healings and our first parables)

July 14—Luke Chapter 6 (More healings and The Sermon on the Plain)

July 21—Luke Chapter 7 (Meals with Pharisees, update on John the Baptist)

July 28—Luke Chapter 8 (Parable of the Sower, introducing Mary Magdalene)

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