

# 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 9:30-10:15 a.m.

Worship - 11:00 a.m.

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

Email:

[secretary@memorialumcaustin.com](mailto:secretary@memorialumcaustin.com)

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# MARCH 2023



**seeking:**  
honest questions  
for deeper faith

## Lent 2023

This year, our Lenten scriptures feature many characters who come with questions for Jesus. We will be engaging those questions as a congregation and as individuals.

Like the characters in our Lenten scriptures, we are also seeking many things: clarity, connection, wonder, justice, balance. Throughout the turbulence of the past few years, many of us are asking big questions about our lives and our faith. We hope this series will help us unpack some of those big questions in ways that are honest and faithful. Throughout this season, we hope you will continually ask yourself: what am I seeking? What is God seeking?

## Sundays in Lent:

February 26: Who will you listen to?

(Matthew 4:1-11, Genesis 2-3)

March 5: How do we begin again?

(John 3:1-17, Genesis 12:1-4)

March 12: Will you give me a drink?

(John 4:5-42, Exodus 17:1-7)

March 19: Who sinned?

(John 9:1-41)

March 26: Can these bones live?

(John 11:1-45, Ezekiel 37:1-14)

April 2: Where are you headed?

(Matthew 21:1-11)

**\*\*Other Opportunities Continued Page 5**



## Church News

### Many Thanks!!!

Billie extends her heartfelt thanks to all those who have volunteered, brought food, attended John's service, sent a card or note of sympathy and condolences. She is grateful for all of your caring, love and support during this difficult time.



### New Breeze Giving Link

*New Breeze  
Online Giving is*

*Now Active.* Check this out on the homepage on our website at

[www.memorialumcaustin.com](http://www.memorialumcaustin.com) or link here:  
[Breeze Online Giving](#) (Instructions Below)

Breeze also includes a new option to 'Text to Give' at 512-882-1966.

The Ezekiel giving platform will be retired soon. If you have a recurring gift set up, you will need to go to the New Breeze Online Giving to set that up again.

- Instructions:**
1. Enter Amount
  2. Enter Fund to Direct Your Gift/Payment
  3. Choose One Time or Recurring Setting
  4. Enter Payment Method & Details (ACH payment will require your bank routing and account number)
  5. \*\*Choose whether to include the cost incurred by MUMC to process your online gift based on the amount (this fee will be shown so you will know the amount).



## March Birthdays

- |      |  |
|------|--|
| 1st  | Craig Amundson   |
| 3rd  | Elizabeth Bach-Miller                                      |
| 4th  | Eva Davila   |
| 5th  | Linda Eaker<br>James Journigan                             |
| 6th  | Carole Garner<br>Judy Johnson<br>Krystal Walker            |
| 7th  | David Amundson<br>Chad Ericson                             |
| 9th  | Laura Elizabeth Smith                                      |
| 12th | Wanda Anderson<br>Minda Egbert<br>Jules Harrison Pomerleau |
| 15th | Jacy Kuruk Gray<br>Danielle Webster                        |
| 16th | Alberta Shelton  |
| 17th | Elizabeth Aeon Petersen                                    |
| 19th | Julian Dahan<br>Josh Jourdan                               |
| 24th | Courtney Garner  |
| 25th | Jonathan Mohler<br>Jack Dahan                              |
| 26th | Misty Ericson  |
| 30th | Patrick Tafoya   |
| 31st | Deborah Bryant   |



## Pancake Breakfast

2nd Sunday of each month  
in the Gym Kitchen/FHL  
March 12th 8:30am



UWF meets the 3rd  
Wednesday of each month  
March 15th 10:30am in  
Pearce

**Bread Church**  
7pm Gym Kitchen  
March 16th



## March Youth Schedule

March 5 9:45am & 6pm

March 19th after Egg Stuffing at 6pm

Spring Break

April 2 9:45am &  
6pm

See Youth Page on website



## Wesley Rec Soccer



Wesley Recreation Center is a free sports program for 4<sup>th</sup> and 5th graders. In the Spring of 2023, we will be offering soccer on Mondays from 3:30 pm to 5:30 pm for the first few weeks. The program will include instruction, games, and free time. There is no fee, but pre-registration is required. If you have any questions, please contact Kendall Smith 512-844-6809 or Kathleen Beuttenmueller 920-980-7313. Begins March 20th

## Egg Stuffing Sunday

March 19th  
GYM @ 5:00pm



## Spring Fling Easter Event Egg Hunt & Games

Saturday April 1st  
10am-12pm



## CROP HUNGER WALK

ENDING HUNGER ONE STEP AT A TIME

### Live! In-person!

I am so excited to say those words. The Austin CROP Hunger Walk will be live and in-person at Camp Mabry on Sunday, March 26<sup>th</sup>! Simultaneously, we expect several teams to walk on their own, as they have since the 2020 Walk.

**Walk Step-off: 2:30 p.m. Pre-Walk festivities: 1:45 p.m.**

**Register at [www.crophungerwalk.org/austintx](http://www.crophungerwalk.org/austintx)**

The event includes:

A new, accessible walk route (about 2 miles)

A t-shirt "shoot". You know what a turkey shoot is? It's exactly the same (*oh well, no, it isn't*). But it will be fun as we give away some free t-shirts during the pre-walk festivities.

CWS Hygiene Kits collection – we'll provide the supplies; walkers will put the kits together and then we'll provide them along the border.

A new generation of Walk t-shirts for sale.

Time with our fantastic local partners who make a difference right here in the Austin area: Central Texas Food Bank, iACT Refugee Services, Sustainable Food Center, Manos deCristo, Austin City Lutherans Food for All, Hope Food Pantry/ Austin, Mt. Olive Baptist Church Food Pantry.

Music and refreshments

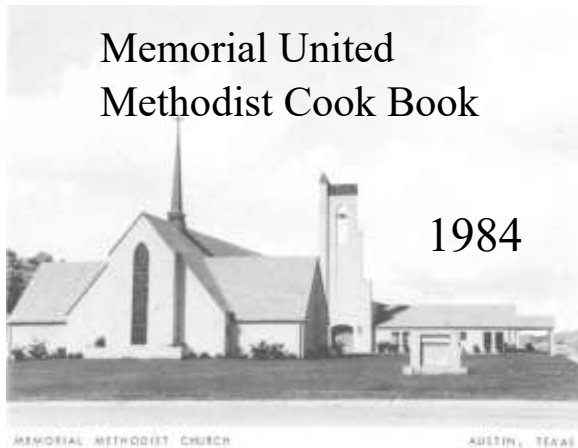
The great feeling that comes with with making a difference!

Kevin Murphy, Austin CROP Hunger Walk





**This section is in honor and memory of our Swedish ancestors.** These recipes were copied from the original cookbook of the woman's Society of Christian service and Wesleyan Service Guild of Memorial United Methodist church of Austin, Texas. The year of our Lord 1964.



### Frukt Soppa (Swedish Fruit Soup)

3 qts. boiling water  
 $\frac{1}{2}$  c. raisins  
 $\frac{1}{2}$  c. tapioca or red sago  
 1 c. sugar  
 1 c. prunes  
 $\frac{1}{2}$  lb. dried apricots  
 $\frac{1}{2}$  lb. dried apples  
 $\frac{1}{2}$  lb. dried peaches  
 2 cinnamon sticks  
 $\frac{1}{2}$  orange  
 $\frac{1}{2}$  lemon, sliced with rind  
 $\frac{1}{2}$  lb. dried pears

Boil all together for 1 hour.

Serve with whipped cream and Swedish spritz.



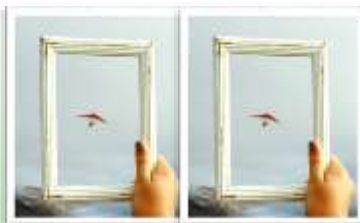
Rev. Bent Howe in September 30, 1908 arrived in Austin, by train, as the new pastor of Central Methodist Episcopal Church. His arrival made two newspapers, the Austin paper and the Swedish paper. The event drew 400 to 500 people to greet him and his family. One of them was Rev. O. E. Lindstrum who was serving in Georgetown. He would later be the tenth pastor at Central and served between 1926-1928.

In 1870 Swedish immigrants from other states come to Texas. One of them was our founder Carl Charnquist. There were also single young men and women from Sweden. They came with jobs skills. Most came through Chicago ports, then by train to Dallas and completed their journey by stagecoach to Austin.

In the early years they had afternoon service from the people whose job had not allowed them to come to morning services like nurse and governess'. In later years (1990's) they had early services for people who work on Sunday.

### Two Too Many" A Picture Give Away

While waiting for church to start, take some time to browse through the pictures in the Narthex. We have doubles of so many pictures and want to share with everyone. Please take the picture of your family and friends who have moved away. Please Share.



### Thanks for the Email Responses to the Feb. NL article!

"Speaking of the coke machine, one time at MYF a young man (we'll assume a guest) stuck his hand up the machine trying to get a free coke. Someone else put money in and the machine grabbed his arm. It was quickly unplugged and the fire department was called. They destroyed the machine getting it open but freed the arm."

**Legend loses home.** The historic home of legendary Texas Longhorns linebacker Pat Culpepper (1960-62) and his wife, Martha, in Cleburne was totally lost in a fire recently. They both were lucky to survive, but Pat lost all of his UT memorabilia and the like in the house that was built before 1900.





# The Pastor's Corner

*"Awe came upon everyone because many wonders and signs were being done through the apostles." (Acts 2:43)*

Every year when Lent rolls around my to-do list expands by quite a bit! The lead-up to Easter involves more activities, more planning and trying to leave time for my own spiritual well-being, especially in a time when the expectation is that we are all spending intentional time doing a "spring cleaning" on our relationship with Jesus!

So when my friend, Ellen, posted this list that her son had written, it unkinked what was getting tighter and tighter in my spirit and reminded me that my own response to being overwhelmed by all the things that I have to do will many times simply cause a shut-down. This kind of to-do list frees me to remember that I am also called, for the sake of my relationship with God, to things that are not a part of my job description!



I am called to Chill! To take Sabbath seriously. To rest. To not need to be in control of everything. To share responsibility and power. To put away my anxiety about the future AND the past and to live in the present moment.

I am called to Explore! To be curious instead of judgmental. To be willing to look at all angles and aspects of a question. To read stories that are outside of my own experience. To wonder about where God is working and to look in unexpected places for signs that God is already there. To wander again around my neighborhood, to meet my neighbors and engage with them.

I am called to Admire! To praise God for all that God has faithfully done in my life and in the lives of others. To live a life of thanksgiving. To speak up where I see beauty and kindness and love. To encourage others when they are doing Good and to see their giftedness. To offer respect when someone is taking on a difficult task.

In the early church, everything was new and exciting and hope-filled. It was also hard and ground-breaking and unpredictable! But I think even our age could use some attention paid to the signs and wonders that God has never stopped doing. How would you go about Chilling, Exploring and Admiring? Let's do that together!

*Synthia Kepler-Harner*

## OTHER OPPORTUNITIES

**Join** a group project: Participate in constructing a LEGO mosaic of our Jesus stained glass window (instructions and LEGOs provided) or sign up to handwrite a section of the Gospel of John (either cursive or printing is fine)

**Attend** "Questions with the Pastor" lunches or coffee hours (times and dates TBD—check our website for more info)

Daily Devotional questions (cards available by request or can be texted)

## Easter Lily Order Form: Deadline March 24th

The Easter Season is upon us again, it is time to place your orders **The cost is \$10.00 per plant.** Please fill in the information below to ensure that your message will be included in the Lily Insert on Easter Sunday. **Return this form along with your payment no later than March 24th. See below for instruction.**



Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Please Circle one or designate in lines below:    IN HONOR    Or    IN MEMORY

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How many plants? (\$10.00 each) \_\_\_\_\_ Total Due: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ \*\*PLEASE INDICATE WHETHER  
YOU WILL TAKE THEM HOME OR DONATE YOUR PLANT/S    Donate \_\_\_\_\_ or  
You Will Keep/Take Home With You \_\_\_\_\_

**Drop Order Form into Offering Plate, (do not place in envelope) or drop into Secretary Office or email it to [secretary@memorialumcaustin.com](mailto:secretary@memorialumcaustin.com)** Or Return to:  
Memorial UMC Attn: KC 6100 Berkman Dr. Austin, TX 78723    \*\*The Payment ONLY can go into an offering envelope – not forms, please designate your check or on envelope with name for cash: Easter Lily

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