

# 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 9:15-10:00 a.m.

Worship - 10:30 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:

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# March 2020



## Lent 2020

Lent begins in the wilderness. The Spirit guides Jesus into the wilderness where he comes face to face with temptation and struggle. Yet, in his forty days of fasting, resisting, and wandering, Jesus is shaped and formed for his ministry. Similarly, through the wilderness of Lent, we are invited to surrender to the wild leadings of the Spirit. We rarely enter the wilderness willingly, but hopefully through our wandering we remember Who we are and Whose we are. The wilderness can become sacred even if it remains dangerous. There is no wilderness space too harsh or threatening for God's love. This Lent, we welcome you to the journey.

February 26--Ash Wednesday

March 1--First Sunday in Lent

March 29--One Great Hour of Sharing

April 5--Palm/Passion Sunday

April 9--Maundy Thursday

April 12--Easter Sunday



# News From Pews



By **Billie Nixon**

**Membership Coordinator**



## Thanksgiving

Chili Cook Off  
Youth Mid-Winter  
Camps.

John Nixon doing  
well.

## Sick/In Need of Healing

Paul McPhail

Linda Kelly

Pat Teaney

John Stidolph

Virginia Smith

Larry Tiemann

Monte Lynn Elliott

Carole Garner

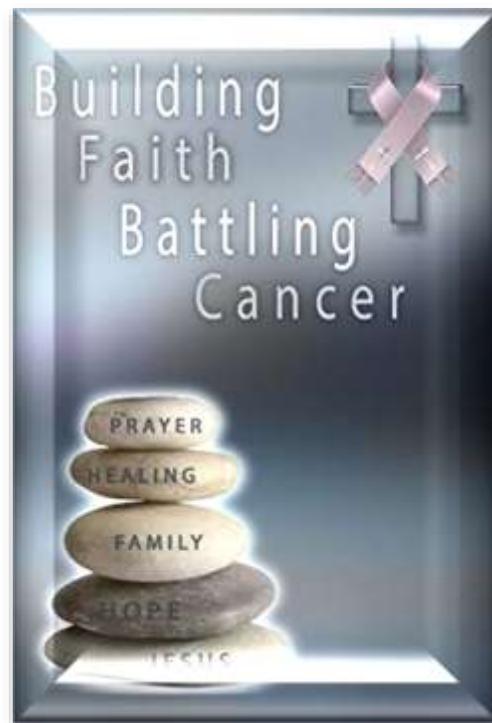
Virginia Smith



On-  
Going  
Prayers:

Christine  
Warner,

Anna Kennedy, Rev. Sheldon  
Johnson, Larry Arrant, Sara Eakin,  
Chris Dysert, MaryAnna, Gary  
Giles, Susan Froebel, Bambi Teaney,



Battling Cancer: JoAnn Bennink,  
Cara Giles, Rev. Tina Carter, Phillip  
Lowe, Matthew Shelton, Stephanie  
Walker, Michael Jander, Cherry  
Crawford, Charlotte Gabriel, Larry  
Tiemann, Rick Ondrais, Keith  
Schmidt, Lexi Nixon, Susan Antcola

If you would like weekly emails with prayer concerns/updates,  
send an email to [secretary@memorialumcaustin.com](mailto:secretary@memorialumcaustin.com)  
requesting to be on the prayer email list.



UMYF- Sunday March 29th  
5-7:15pm Egg Stuffing in the parlor!

## CHECK IT OUT!

Our calendar is now on the website. Check out all the activities and descriptions.

If you have an event, email me a description, contact information or any other details. This will help connect people to you, your group, event etc....



Calendar subject to change, please contact office for availability & to reserve space for an event.



**Daylight Savings Begins  
Sunday March 8th**



**Spring Break  
March 14th-22nd**



**Spring Fling  
Egg Stuffing  
Party**

Sunday March 29th  
At 5pm In Parlor

For questions please contact Kendall or Laura Smith or Pastor Cynthia

**Spring  
Fling Egg  
Hunt**



Saturday April 11th  
10:00am-12:00pm

We welcome all volunteers for set up, manning booths and cleanup!



## Plant A Seed for Your Community

One of nature's miracles is that seemingly insignificant acts can result in an explosion of beauty and wonder. Flower seeds, for example, can be distributed by means of wind, water, and animals, - resulting in flowers that seem to appear out of nowhere. Your small acts of kindness and service can have the same effect on your family and community.

Like planting a flower seed, it sometimes takes time for that seed to germinate and grow. You never know what effect your small acts of



kindness may have at some point in the future. As your children watch and assist you in these acts of **kindness and service, you're planting a seed that may blossom into a love of service in their lives as well.** Also, every seemingly insignificant act of kindness or service can, over time, amount to very significant changes in your community – especially when combined with the actions of other like-minded individuals. Through small and simple means, the heart of a city is strengthened, and the love of neighbor grows into a beautiful garden indeed

Senior Access invites you to perform just such small acts of kindness by volunteering to provide transportation and other essential services for **seniors in your community.** Whether it's an hour a week, or a couple of hours a month, your seemingly small acts of service can have lasting effects – some which may not manifest immediately, but suddenly **spring into a garden that you'll enjoy for years to come.**

If you or a friend are interested in volunteering, please contact Sherrie to learn more at 512-310-1060 | [sherrie@senioracesstx.org](mailto:sherrie@senioracesstx.org), or visit our website at [www.senioracesstx.org](http://www.senioracesstx.org).



**Calling all volunteers! We're in need of drivers at our Central Kitchen and Parker Lane United Methodist sites. If you, or someone you know in the East Austin neighborhood, would be interested in volunteering one hour of their time, we have plenty of opportunity to help! We host open house volunteer trainings each Thursday, starting at 12:15pm, at our Central Kitchen. We would love to see you there!**

Sam Fullilove Volunteer Recruitment Specialist  
3227 East 5<sup>th</sup> Street Austin, Texas 78702  
p. 512.476.6325 x 145



Austin's CROP Hunger Walk is Sunday, March 1, 2020, at Camp Mabry.

I'm excited about 2 new additions to the Walk day activities: Tiny Tails petting zoo (which, let's

face it, gives adults an excuse to act like kids again!) and the Ukelele Society of Austin will have provide music! Walk activities start at 2 pm and Step-off is at 2:30 pm.

I hope to see a walking team from Memorial. Come out and listen to the music; enjoy the education tables and the walk route. Mabry is very hospitable – our walking route takes us into some wooded and shady areas.

Kevin Murphy, Community Engagement Manager  
512-755-3124 [kmurphy@cwsqglobal.org](mailto:kmurphy@cwsqglobal.org)





# *The Pastor's Corner*

*"Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness..." (Matthew 4:1a)*

Where is the wilderness for you?

Is the wilderness someplace you visit? Someplace you want to live? Is it unnerving? Is it too chaotic to allow you to see the underlying order?

I went into the literal wilderness one summer with a friend. We were hunting for waterfalls and beautiful overlooks in the mountains of North Carolina. He promised that there was a gorgeous one just a little ways off the beaten path.

So we left the beaten path.

And we soon found ourselves lost and running out of daylight.

After he attempted to climb a couple of overgrown twigs, masquerading as trees, to see if he could see through the density toward any signs that we were near the road, we finally stopped to pray. About 10 minutes later, thirsty and just a touch scared, we wandered onto the roadside.

I was not anxious to return to the wilderness after that, at least to the wilderness where there were no maps and I couldn't predict what might happen! The wilderness where I could follow a trail and wind up at a campsite near enough to the wildlife, but still comfortable—well, that was fine, but anything more was a little too risky.

Which is to say that I understand why it is so unnerving to be in an age of Christianity where the old maps don't seem to lead us to the Promised Land of revitalized worship or discipleship. Those old maps promised that if we just did this or that thing, ran this or that program, even if the right people moved into the neighborhood, we would have explosive growth and be a vital congregation.

I think about that hour, wandering around in the woods near twilight. I remember praying—and I won't lie—it felt incredibly awkward, and to this day, I don't think I've fully discerned why. Perhaps it is because prayer is something that when two or more people share it, a deeper relationship is created.

And that's what, in the end, it comes down to. Perhaps the old maps weren't incorrect (except in labeling people "right" or "wrong") so much as they were incomplete. Perhaps instead of seeking a program or a style or a pastor to draw people like a moth to a flame, we should be seeking out relationships that draw us closer to one another.

We are spending all of Lent in the wilderness instead of just the first Sunday. We will see how Jesus' ministry embodies these kinds of relationships that draw people closer to God. We will see how he navigates—and how he asks us to navigate—the wilderness of the world that we find ourselves in, even when there is no convenient map.

Come out into the wilderness. Follow Jesus. See you in worship.

*Synthia Kepler-Harer*



# MARCH 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**

### **Sunday March 1**

9:15am Sunday School for all ages

10:30am Worship Service

\*6:00-8:00pm Al-Anon - Library

### **Monday March 2**

\*6:30pm Austin Harmony - Choir room

### **Tuesday March 3**

\*9:00am-12:00pm English Class - FHL

10:00am BIF - Pearce

### **Wednesday March 4**

\*3:30pm-5:15pm Wesley Rec Center - Gym

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

\*7:00pm Choir Rehearsal

### **Thursday March 5**

\*9:00am-12:00pm English Class - FHL

\*7:00am-9:00pm Al-Anon - Library

### **Friday March 6**

### **Saturday March 7**

9:00am-2:00pm Girl Scout World Thinking Day- Gym

10:00am-12:00pm Private Event - Pearce

### **Sunday March 8 Day Light Savings Begins**

8:30am Pancake Breakfast - Gym Kitchen

9:15am Sunday School for all ages

10:30am Worship Service

11:30am Trustees - Pearce

### **Monday March 9**

6:30pm Finance Team - Pearce

### **Tuesday March 10**

6:00pm Wesley Board - Pearce

### **Wednesday March 11**

### **Thursday March 12**

4:00-6:30pm Girl Scouts - Believer's/Gym

7:00 pm Austin Ukulele Society - Gym

### **Friday March 13**

### **Saturday March 14 Spring Break Begins**

10:00am Windsor Park Neighborhood Assoc. - FHL

### **Sunday March 15**

9:15am Sunday School for all ages

10:30am Worship Service

### **Monday March 16 April NL Content Due**

### **Tuesday March 17**

No ESL - Class on Spring Break

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

### **Wednesday March 18**

### **No Wesley Recreation Center- Spring Break**

### **Thursday March 19**

No ESL—Class on Spring Break

7:00pm Bread Church - Gym

### **Friday March 20**

### **Saturday March 21**

### **Sunday March 22**

9:15am Sunday School for all ages

10:30am Worship Service

### **Monday March 23**

### **Tuesday March 24**

### **Wednesday March 25**

### **Thursday March 26**

4:00-6:30pm Girl Scouts - Believer's/Gym

### **Friday March 27**

### **Saturday March 28**

### **Sunday March 29**

9:15am Sunday School for all ages

10:30am Worship Service

5:00-7:00pm Egg Stuffing with UMYF - Parlor

### **Monday March 30**

### **Tuesday March 31**

\*Please Note that these ongoing events are in the same space and on the same day each week, such as: Choir Rehearsal, Girl Scouts, AH Choral, Wesley Rec Center and more.



# March Birthdays

- 1st Craig Amundson  
Joel Britt
- 2nd Travis Rychlik
- 3rd Elizabeth Bach-Miller
- 4th Eva Davila
- 5th Linda Eaker  
James Journigan
- 6th Carole Garner  
Judy Johnson
- 7th David Amundson  
Chad Ericson
- 8th Mary Bryant
- 9th Laura Elizabeth Smith  
Grant Walker Zapalac
- 12th Wanda Anderson  
Minda Egbert
- 15th Jacy Kuruk Gray  
Danielle Webster
- 16th Alberta Shelton
- 17th Elizabeth Aeon Petersen
- 19th Julian Dahan  
Josh Jourdan
- 23rd Dorothy Langston
- 24th Courtney Garner
- 25th Jonathan Mohler  
Jack Dahan
- 26th Misty Ericson
- 30th Patrick Tafoya
- 31st Deborah Bryant




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

Find us on FaceBook at  
**breadchurch@memorialumc**

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 7pm**  
**March 19th Gym**



## 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 Daphne Turnage our scheduler, to be on the list of readers and pray-ers!

# March Newsletter



Wesley School  
A weekday ministry of the Memorial United Methodist Church



Talent Show *AM*



Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser

Friday April 17th in the Gym  
Begins at 6pm

Tickets on sale at the Wesley School Office  
and from board members beginning April 1st

Adult Tickets: \$8 Children under 10: \$4  
Under 2: Free

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