

# The Newsletter

## May 2019

### 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: [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)

Phone: 512. 452.5796

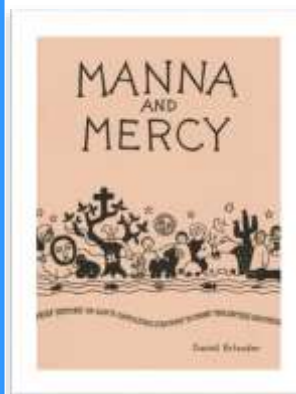
Fax: 512.450.0323



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## May 2019



***Manna and Mercy: A Brief History of God's Unfolding Promise to Mend the Entire Universe***

A long title, but a short book! Daniel Erlander (the author) says about it: "This is a booklet about God—more specifically the God of the Bible who is present and active in human history and in all creation. I am convinced that

authentic God-talk can take place only in the context of trembling, laughing at oneself, praying for forgiveness, and understanding that words never capture the reality to which they point." Full of images that help to capture God's vision of manna and mercy for all, this book will help you to understand the full scope of the Bible in a 6-week study. Books will be \$10. Call Pastor Cynthia if you wish to join the class but miss the organizational meeting.

#### MISSION and VISION

For the past two years, a group of leaders, identified by our Nominations Team, has been praying and discussing scripture, talking about Memorial's past and future and our strengths. In worship in May, we hope to begin revealing the results of our work—a new mission and vision statement that will guide and focus us as we move forward. We hope you will come and share in our joy as we make this new beginning together!



**May 12th**

**May 27th**





# CHURCH NEWS

By Billie Nixon

Membership Coordinator



## Births

John and Billie Nixon are excited to introduce to you their newest great grandchild. Now they have 4! They can hardly wait to see him in person and hold him.

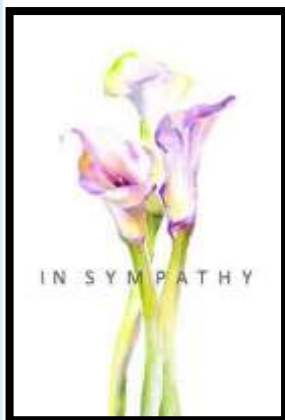


Beau Clayton Riley is the son of Rustin & Lauren (Dixon) Riley and the grandson of Jerry & Debbie (Nixon) Dixon. All are from Albuquerque, New Mexico. Uncle Evan Dixon is living in Washington, DC. Rustin's parents live in Santa Fe, NM and all were



there to greet Beau upon his birth. Of course John & Billie are his great grandparents. Beau was born on Saturday March 30th at 8:51am weighing 6 lbs. 6 oz. and 18 inches tall.

All are well and happy. We know that there is a God who is the One in control of miracles, life and birth!



Love & Concern go to the Wilson and Compton families at the passing of Jennifer Jo Compton, age 38, on April 1, 2019. Services were held at 10am Saturday April 6th at Immanuel Lutheran Church in Pflugerville, TX.

Jennifer is the granddaughter of Cleo Wilson, daughter of Bob &

Barbara Compton, niece of Martha & Steve Althaus. Bob, Barbara (deceased), Jennifer and Chris Compton were members of Memorial years ago.



Jennifer was a graduate of Pflugerville High School and a proud graduate of Texas A&M (Class of 2003). She was an enlightened

professional that always put her full energy into her career. Jennifer valued faith and continually developed her relationship with God.

She was quick to share her time with family and friends. On a beautiful day it would not be uncommon to find her out at the lake or planning her next trip to the beach. Jennifer enjoyed a lively game of canasta at Granny's on Friday nights. Jennifer's effervescent soul and infectious smile led her to make strong connections with all--humans and the four-legged.

Friends and Family will miss her beautiful smile, caring heart, and the joy she brought to us all. Spend time with your loved ones, go on an adventure, celebrate enduring friendships, for that is what Jennifer wished for. When you think of her, celebrate the wonderful memories you have of Jennifer.

We have wonderful memories of those who have been here at Memorial and our condolences and prayers go out to the family at this loss.



## Graduation Sunday June 2nd

**If you have a graduate this year--  
contact us ASAP!! Email us at  
secretary@memorialumcaustin.com or contact  
Billie Nixon for the graduation information  
form in order to be included in our celebration**



## College Students - Gain Valuable Real-Life Experience Working with Seniors



Are you or someone you know a college student studying to work in a field with seniors? You can gain valuable, real-life experience by volunteering with Senior Access, a non profit organization dedicated to helping seniors in your community remain active and mobile.

Seniors are the fastest growing segment of our society. This is one of the reasons why careers centered around assisting seniors is growing at such a phenomenal rate. If this is an area of study that you are pursuing, you can gain valuable experience in volunteering with Senior Access. You decide how much time you would like to serve, and we'll work with you to match your varying schedule. Drivers are our biggest need, but other ways to serve include: Office Work, Light Yard Work, Friendly Phone Calls, In-Home Visits, and Handyman Services.

Senior Access provides transportation and other essential services for older seniors who are no longer able to drive for themselves. This is a great way to get service credits, gain valuable career experience, and make a huge difference in people's lives.

If you're interested in volunteering or learning more, contact Sherrie at 512-310-1060 | [vr@senioracesstx.org](mailto:vr@senioracesstx.org), or visit our website at [www.senioracesstx.org](http://www.senioracesstx.org).



### MEALS on WHEELS CENTRAL TEXAS

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

Thanks!

Denise Jimenez

Director of Volunteer Services

3227 East 5<sup>th</sup> Street

Austin, Texas 78702

p. 512.476.6325 x 134

[www.mealsonwheelscentraltexas.org](http://www.mealsonwheelscentraltexas.org)



Wednesdays

11am-1pm

and

Every 3rd

Saturday

9am-11am

NEW SATURDAY HOURS

Monday, Tuesday, & Wednesday

10am-1pm

and Every

3rd Saturday

8:30am-11am



In the Gym (not the office)

512-350-2845 [frestoreaustin.org](http://frestoreaustin.org)





## The Ration Challenge

You've often read about CROP Hunger Walk in my articles. This article is different; it's about The Ration Challenge USA.

In camps across the world, refugees live on meager rations – often around 500 calories a day. Think about that – one McDonald's Quarter Pounder with cheese has 510 calories!



Church World Service is challenging folks to take The Ration Challenge. I am taking the challenge this year. For 7 days, beginning June 16<sup>th</sup>, I'll attempt to live on the rations provided to a Syrian refugee in a camp in Jordan + invite friends via social media and email to make a gift to help CWS provide food and medical help to those refugees.

To date, more than 5,000 people have signed up!

Of course, not everyone will be able to participate – and anyone participating should check with their doctor(s) if they have any concerns.

You can learn more – and if you'd like, help refugees in often desperate situations by supporting me as I take the challenge:

<https://my.rationchallengeusa.org/kevinmurphy>

**Kevin Murphy, Community Engagement Manager  
Church World Service**



We now have an option to give to Memorial UMC online through our website. This way of giving is not meant to replace normal giving paths (electronic funds transfer, checks or cash), but to offer people an additional way to support the ministry of the church. If you have friends or know of people who have wondered how they can give to the church for a memorial donation or to support a ministry outreach that they are particularly interested in, that's a great place to send them. For more information, contact the church office at 512-452-5796.

[www.MemorialUMCAustin.com](http://www.MemorialUMCAustin.com)



- ◆ Sun May 12 UMYF 5 pm
- ◆ Fri – Sun May 24-26 END OF SCHOOLTRIP –

**\*\*\*more details soon!\*\*\***

### SUMMER OPPORTUNITIES

- ◆ UMARMY JR HI/SR HI SOUTH PADRE AREA  
JUNE 16-20
- ◆ REVIVE SUMMER CAMP AT MOUNT WESLEY JULY 7-11

# Pastor's Corner



*“This is the disciple who is testifying to these things and has written them, and we know that his testimony is true. <sup>25</sup> But there are also many other things that Jesus did; if every one of them were written down, I suppose that the world itself could not contain the books that would be written.” (John 21:24-25)*

After the rush and the preparations and the actual events of Holy Week and Easter Sunday, I generally need a day to

decompress and recover. I have heard myself say on occasion that on Sunday afternoon, I get to go into a tomb and on the third day (Tuesday), I will be back bright and early!

But that makes Easter seem like something is ending instead of beginning. It is a new beginning for me, for us, for all of creation! And instead of thinking that there's nothing to look forward to in church now, I believe that we need to be looking for those stories coming alive around us of all the “other things” that Jesus is doing.

Actually, more than that. We need to BE those stories. We need to BE those books that God is writing in the world.

You might be stuck in your home, waiting for a gust of the Holy Spirit or the risen Christ to appear to you before you venture out. You may be as scared as the disciples were with all of the death and destruction and change and fear-full things all around.

But every day is another opportunity for us to come in contact with places and people who need Good News. Don't get me wrong—those places may be difficult! Jesus didn't just proclaim life to those who were willing and ready to accept it. He proclaimed it in the difficult and even impossible places. Maybe you remember a time when you couldn't bring yourself to believe that new life was for YOU. But it is...it is...it is.

That doesn't mean that everything is roses (or lilies!). It just means that you carry LIFE around in you instead of the knowledge that someday you will die. Our Easter proclamation to all the world is that we are living testimonies of Jesus' resurrection—not just people who are hoping to live as many days here as we can and collect as much good stuff as we can.

I was having a difficult conversation with someone the other day, and I was getting deeply frustrated—the person was not communicating clearly, and I wasn't sure there was anything I could do to meet the need in the way she wanted me to meet it. But then I thought about what the resurrected path would be, and it changed the way I listened and responded. I could see Jesus walking with her in new life. I began to imagine how her story would be a part of a book that was written about Jesus' resurrection. And it made all the difference.



That's the power of Jesus' resurrection—not that it makes me a better person, but it conquers the workings of death in me to bring me to a place where I can see the new life all around me. That is my prayer for you and for us all this Easter season.

See you in worship!

*Cynthia Kepler-Hauer*



# MAY CALENDAR

## **\* Starred \* Events Happen Each Week**

### **Wednesday May 1**

\*11:00am-1pm FreeStore Shopping & Donations

\*7:00pm Choir Rehearsal

### **Thursday May 2**

\* 9am-11am Wesley School Soccer - Gym

\*9:30am-12:30pm English Class - FHL

### **Friday May 3**

\*6:00pm Girl Scouts #172 - Believer's/Gym

### **Saturday May 4**

### **Sunday May 5**

9:15am Sunday School for all ages

10:30am Worship Service

5:00-7:00pm Youth Group - Youth Room/Gym

### **Monday May 6**

\*9:00am-1:00pm - Freestore Accepting Donations

\*6:30pm Austin Harmony - Gym

### **Tuesday May 7**

\*9:00am-1:00pm - Freestore Accepting Donations

\* 9:30am-12:30pm English Class - FHL

10:00am BIF - Pearce

### **Wednesday May 8**

### **Thursday May 9**

4:00-6:30pm Girl Scouts #45400 - Believer's/Gym

7:00pm Austin Ukulele Society - Gym

### **Friday May 10**

### **Saturday May 11**

10am Windsor Park Neighborhood Assoc. - FHL

### **Sunday May 12 Mother's Day**

8:30am Pancake Breakfast - Gym

9:15am Sunday School for all ages

10:30am Worship Service

11:30am Trustees - Pearce

5-7pm Youth Group - Youth Room

### **Monday May 13**

6:30pm Finance Team - Pearce

### **Tuesday May 14**

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

6:30pm Wesley Board - Pearce

7-10pm Austin Shakespeare - Gym

### **Wednesday May 15 June Newsletter Content DUE**

7-10pm Austin Shakespeare - Gym

### **Thursday May 16**

7:00pm Bread Church - Gym

### **Friday May 17**

7:00am- 2:00pm TMVA Board - Parlor

### **Saturday May 18**

9:00-11:00am FreeStore Shopping

11-5pm Austin Shakespeare - Gym

### **Sunday May 19**

9:15am Sunday School for all ages

10:30am Worship Service

5-9pm Austin Shakespeare - Gym

### **Monday May 20**

### **Tuesday May 21**

7-10pm Austin Shakespeare - Gym

### **Wednesday May 22**

7-10pm Austin Shakespeare - Gym

### **Thursday May 23**

4:00-6:30pm Girl Scouts #45400 - Believer's/Gym

7-10pm Austin Shakespeare - Gym

### **Friday May 24**

7-10pm Austin Shakespeare - Gym

### **Saturday May 25**

11-5pm Austin Shakespeare - Gym

### **Sunday May 26**

9:15am Sunday School for all ages

10:30am Worship Service

11:45am WHO Widow Support - Pearce

5-9pm Austin Shakespeare - Gym

### **Monday May 27 Office Closed for Memorial Day**

### **Tuesday May 28**

7-10pm Austin Shakespeare - Gym

### **Wednesday May 29**

7-10pm Austin Shakespeare - Gym

### **Thursday May 30**

7-10pm Austin Shakespeare - Gym

### **Friday May 31**





# May Birthdays


- 1st Jennifer Smith
- 4th Peter Vasquez
- 5th Sheryl Cheatham  
Jessica Shelton Williams
- 7th Hannah Egbert
- 11th Hale Roy Bills  
Hunter Eddie Bills
- 14th Greg Mikeska
- 16th Andrew Friedrich  
Gary Alan Gray
- 17th James Leavelle
- 19th Mary Linda Gray
- 25th Lisa Schmidt Mosley
- 26th Don Morrison
- 28th Emily Anne Egbert
- 29th Judy Friedrich
- 31st Margaret Adams




**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

Please be in prayer for our congregation and friends.

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?



**May 16th  
Bread Church  
7PM Gym**

*Pancake Breakfast*

Join Your Church Every 2nd Sunday of the month in the Gym 8:30am  
May 12th



# The Newsletter



Coming in  
June...

On June 16, Pastor Cynthia will start taking us through the entire Gospel of Luke—from meeting Zechariah in the temple all the way to Jesus' resurrection appearances. Along the way, we will hear from guest speakers, skilled storytellers, and acclaimed theologians as well as those whose voices we don't normally get a chance to hear.

Pastor Cynthia will be compiling resources for you to "go deeper" with the scriptures. If you are interested in receiving these resources each week, please let the office know. They will be sent out primarily by email and published through facebook, but can also be made available on a monthly basis by regular mail.

This is an excellent opportunity to invite friends and neighbors to

a Biblical adventure! The series will go through November 3.



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