

# The Newsletter

## May 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:

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

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## May 2017

### National Day of Prayer

#### May 4th



### Mother's Day

#### May 14th



### Memorial Day

#### May 29th



# NEWS FROM PEWS

By Billie Nixon

Membership Coordinator



## In Loving Memory

Norma Jones, 87, went to Heaven on March 27, 2017 in Austin after a brief illness. Throughout her life, she was guided by her faith in the Lord. She was a devoted wife, mother, Grandmommy, GGMommy and Memaw, and sister to 7 siblings of the Germann family.

Norma was born in Seguin, TX on May 18, 1929 to parents, Ernst and Elsa Germann. She graduated from Seguin High School. Norma married the love of her life, Carter Jones on September 21, 1951, who preceded her in death. Their family lived in Seguin, Corpus Christi, McAllen, Austin and Pflugerville.

In Seguin, Norma worked for Leon Studio, coloring brown tone pictures. In McAllen, Norma was the children's director of the Head Start program at the First United Methodist Church. She generously gave her time and talent to the community. In Austin, Norma worked at JC Penney's for 35 years, known for her ordering of Boy Scouts of America uniforms, patches, etc. for generations. She was a member of Memorial UMC in Austin, where Carter and Norma taught Sunday School classes, in later years teaching the Rainbows Class, a loved group, who were her special ladies. Later, she joined the First United Methodist Church of Pflugerville. Her focus on her girls and husband was a joy she cherished for a lifetime. All of her family was a blessing to her.

Norma is preceded in death by her husband, Carter, her parents, Ernst and Elsa Germann, sisters, Erna Engler, Edna Coley, Nelda Kubala, Meta Jackel, Hilda Woelke and brother, Arno Germann. She is survived by one brother, Reno Germann (Connie). She is survived by 3 daughters, Deanna Ellisor (John), Carol Golding, (Doug) and Lori Krizan (David). Grandchildren Mary and Rollin Weatherall, Todd Prellop, Julie and Clayton Such, Amy and Jake Thomas, Jason Krizan and Dana Krizan. Great grandchildren Loralai and Abigail Weatherall, Benjamin and Henry Thomas and Ella and Nora Such. She held close, her many nieces, nephews, and their families.



For memorial gifts, the family suggests Methodist Children's Home of Waco, Christopher House of Austin, or First UMC of Pflugerville.

In Memory of Dorothy Fleener Johnson, loving mother, grandmother, and great grandmother, age 91, passed away peacefully at home in Austin, Texas, on March 30, 2017.



Dorothy Mae Fleener was born March 31, 1925 on a farm outside of St. Louis, Missouri, to Frank and Clara Fleener. Her father, Frank, worked for the U.S. Interstate Commerce Commission and the family moved frequently during Dorothy's childhood. As a result of so often being the new kid at school, young Dorothy learned to make friends quickly and easily.

After many moves, the family settled in Dallas where she attended Highland Park High School, graduating with honors in 1943.

In August 1944, while working for the Office of Dependency Benefits in downtown Dallas, she met Harold Johnson, a Captain in the Army, who worked just down the hall as Chief, Army Specialized Training Division. It was truly a match made in heaven and the couple began their married life on May 9, 1945. In addition to parenting their three children, Dorothy and Harold enjoyed traveling throughout the U.S. as well as internationally, including Mexico, Canada, Costa Rica, Europe and Australia.

Dorothy is survived by her two daughters, Kathryn Corbin and Rebecca Huntress, and son-in-law Tommy Huntress of Austin; her brother, Reverend William Johnson and wife, Judy; her grandchildren Kalendi Johnson Simla, Lila Johnson, Billy Johnson of Costa Rica and Melody Paulino of Vancouver, Canada; her great grandchildren Nicole, Bianca, and Mati of Costa Rica; and other family members, including beloved nieces and nephews, as well as many wonderful friends.

She was preceded in death by her devoted husband of 51 years, Harold Johnson; her son, William Johnson; her brother, Thomas Fleener; and her son-in-law, Craig Corbin.

After lovingly devoting herself to her husband and three children as a homemaker, she re-entered the work

force; and, at the age of 63, enrolled in the Graduate School of Theology in Austin, ultimately serving as assistant pastor at Memorial United Methodist Church for two decades. In addition, Dorothy taught Adult Sunday School and Women's Bible Study at Memorial for many years.

In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation to the Austin Humane Society.



Please be in prayer for the friends and family of Jane Shive. She passed away on Sunday April 23rd 2017. The family had an all-day viewing at Cook-Walden (6100 N. Lamar) on April 26th. A private gravesite service was held on Thursday morning April 27th at Austin Memorial Park.

## NEW ARRIVALS



It is our pleasure to announce the birth of Connie Tatom's newest granddaughter, Sara Martinez' daughter. The great granddaughter, Isabella Louise Martinez. weighting 5lbs.14 oz. & 18" long, which arrived around 9:30 am on 4/11/2017. She already has a big 3 year old brother.

Sara Martinez is the daughter of Patsy Tatom Rosas, which is Connie Tatom's oldest daughter. Little Isabella has a full head of black hair and looks like her mother.

Connie now has 6 great grandchildren, 4 boys and 2 girls. Congratulations to each of you and may God guard, guide and bless you richly.

## National Day of Prayer May 4th

The United Methodist Church is a participant in the National Day of Prayer. For more information on the United Methodist involvement and the day's history, please go to <http://www.umc.org/news-and-media/chuck-knows-church-national-day-of-prayer>

Teach us, God,  
to see every question of national policy  
in the light of our faith,  
that we may check in ourselves and in others  
every passion that makes for violent conflict,  
all ungenerous judgment,  
all self-assurance that leads us astray,  
all presumptuous claims.  
Grant us insight to recognize the needs of others,  
to listen without suspicion  
and to speak with true humility and honesty.  
Help us not to seek power for our own sake,  
but for the sake of those most vulnerable,  
seeing others as children of God too.  
And help us in all ways, whether public or private,  
to bring honor to Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen.



## 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).





All are invited to:

**Austin Shakespeare presents  
The Comedy of Errors  
Free Shakespeare in the Park**

**WHO:** Austin Shakespeare - *Classic theater in Central Texas*

**WHAT:** **Free Shakespeare in the Park:  
The Comedy of Errors**

**WHEN:** Thursday – Sunday at 8 pm from  
May 4 – May 28, 2017  
Preview performance on Wednesday, May 3

**WHERE:** Beverly S. Sheffield Zilker  
Hillside Theater 2206 William Barton Dr.,  
Austin, TX 78704



Seize the Day...May's theme for Drive a Senior-Senior Access. We are blessed in the Round Rock, Pflugerville, Hutto, and East Austin communities. We live in a society with many conveniences and opportunities. Our cities, churches, neighborhoods, and schools generally care for each other, even though there is always room for improvements. Many organizations exist to help those in need. For the most part, people in this area genuinely care for each other. We are fortunate.

Yet, it seems that life passes very quickly and one day quickly turns to another. Time goes by and perhaps we don't know our neighbors as well as we once did, or those phone calls between friends or loved ones goes a little longer between the rings. Seize the Day! Make every day count for what you believe is important in your life. Joyce Meyer said, "Each Day can count if we learn to live it 'on purpose' rather than passively drifting through each day, allowing the wind of circumstances and distractions to make our choices for us."



The volunteers who are part of Drive a Senior-Senior Access are great examples of Seizing the Day. You choose to use your time in giving to others who need the ride, the help around the house, the visit or the phone call. You truly make a difference. If you need a boost to help you Seize your Day, contact Sherrie Rose at 512 310 1060 or [vr@driveasenior.org](mailto:vr@driveasenior.org). We can help you help others.



**Shopping  
Hours**

Wednesdays 11am-1pm Gym

Saturdays 9am-11am



Monday,  
Wednesday,

Friday 10am-1pm and

Saturdays 8:30am-11am

In Gym (not the office)



**Drive a Senior**  
Volunteers In Motion

**Teens....do you need volunteer hours?** Drive a Senior-Senior Access has a Summer Teen Van Program. Teen volunteers will assist the van drivers and help senior clients in and out of the van, carry groceries, and interact with van riders. Volunteer opportunities Monday-Thursday. Flexible for you but also a great way to get in lots of volunteer hours over the summer. Contact Sherrie Rose at 512-310-1060 or [vr@driveasenior.org](mailto:vr@driveasenior.org) for more information or to sign up as a teen volunteer.



# Pastor's Corner

dismantling of all of the chains that we recognized during Lent. But my prayer is that you don't just walk away from worship and judge it by

whether or not you feel good or whether or not you've learned something new. I hope God helps you to work on BEING someone new—God's new creation.

In the back beds by the gym, the lilies from Easters past are just beginning to bloom out. It's still Easter. Keep on celebrating...and keep on becoming something new!

*While Paul was waiting for them in Athens, he was deeply distressed to see that the city was full of idols. So he argued in the synagogue with the Jews and the devout persons, and also in the marketplace every day with those who happened to be there. Also some Epicurean and Stoic philosophers debated with him. Some said, "What does this babbling want to say?" Others said, "He seems to be a proclaimer of foreign divinities." (This was because he was telling the good news about Jesus and the resurrection.) So they took him and brought him to the Areopagus and asked him, "May we know what this new teaching is that you are presenting? It sounds rather strange to us, so we would like to know what it means." Now all the Athenians and the foreigners living there would spend their time in nothing but telling or hearing something new. ... When they heard of the resurrection of the dead, some scoffed; but others said, "We will hear you again about this." Acts 17:16-21, 32*

We are in the season of Eastertide. One of the best examples of the importance of celebrating ALL of Eastertide to me is Saul/Paul. If you will remember, Saul had a brilliant moment on the road to Damascus and then had his eyes opened by one of the other believers. It was like Easter—Saul had new life! He even changed his name to Paul; everything seemed to be new!

But what if that had been it? What if he had just seen it as a great day to become something new, but then he had gone back to life like normal—just with Jesus added in now?

Jesus is complicated, and he will mess with our lives in complicated ways. To some, he is a feeling that they get, and it's hard to keep the same kind of happy Easter feeling all the time. To some, like the philosophers, he is an intellectual problem or novelty, and after getting over the excitement of a novelty, some scoff and some think, "Well, maybe I'll come back, but maybe that's just a fun puzzle."

The Resurrection is something to be lived. Are you a new creation in Christ? Is there new creation because of the way God is working in you? Are you living as one who has been touched by Resurrection right now—not waiting for some reward or pie in the sky? What new life is happening because of Jesus?

We continue to celebrate Easter by talking about the

**RESTORED**—Finding Redemption in Our Mess

Our Leadership Team has consistently lifted up small groups as a discipleship possibility for MUMC. Small groups are groups of church folk (and non-church folk!) who get together on a regular basis for prayer and sharing and possibly study. They can meet in homes or in coffee shops or for dinner or without food at all. In addition, churches that are growing and thriving often have small groups as a way of helping members deepen their walk with Christ and as a way to invite people who don't have a church home to an experience that's a little less intimidating than worship can be.

To help MUMC congregants start small groups, I would like to offer Tom Berlin's book "Restored: Finding Redemption in Our Mess" as a way we can walk together in the Easter-and-beyond seasons. I would like for each congregant at MUMC to find a way to engage with at least one or two others persons while reading this (or some other book on spirituality). If you are having problems finding a group, please let me know, and I will help. If your group would be willing to receive others, please let me know what time and where you will be meeting.

# MAY

## CALENDAR

### **Monday, May 1**

6:30am Morning Prayer - Chapel  
6:00pm Girl Scouts - Gym area  
6:30pm Austin Harmony - Choir room  
7:00pm Boy Scout Council - Gym area

### **Tuesday, May 2**

9:00am-1:30pm ESL classes - Parlor  
9:30am BIF - Alberta Shelton's Home

### **Wednesday, May 3**

Every Wednesday in May : Free Store Open  
11:00am-1:00pm Free Store Open for Shopping  
7:00pm Choir Rehearsal

### **Thursday, May 4 National Day of Prayer**

9:00am- 1:30pm ESL classes - Parlor

### **Friday, May 5**

### **Saturday, May 6**

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

### **Sunday, May 7 Communion**

9:15am Sunday School for all ages  
10:30am Worship Service  
11:30am Trustees

### **Monday, May 8**

6:30am Morning Prayer -Chapel  
6:00pm-8:00pm Girl Scouts - Gym area  
6:30pm Austin Harmony - Choir room

### **Tuesday, May 9**

6:00pm CWS - NEW  
6:00pm Wesley Board - Pearce

### **Wednesday, May 10**

7:00pm Choir Rehearsal - Choir room

### **Thursday, May 11**

9:00am- 1:30pm ESL classes - Parlor

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

### **Friday, May 12**

### **Saturday, May 13**

9am -10am WPNA Reception - Parlor  
10am Windsor Park Neighborhood Assoc. - FHL  
12am-3pm Girl Scout Troop 305 - Believer's

### **Sunday, May 14 Pancake Breakfast and**

### **Mother's Day**

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

### **Monday, May 15**

### **(MAY Newsletter Content Deadline)**

6:30am Morning Prayer -Chapel  
6:00pm Girl Scouts - Gym area  
6:30pm Austin Harmony - Choir room

### **Tuesday, May 16**

9:00am- 1:30pm ESL classes - Parlor  
10:00am Honeybees - Anderson Chapel

### **Wednesday, May 17**

11:30am-1:30pm Drive A Senior - Parlor  
7:00pm Choir Rehearsal

### **Thursday, May 18**

9:00am- 1:30pm ESL classes - Parlor  
10:00am Reading and Library - Anderson Chapel  
7:00pm Bread Church - Gym

### **Friday, May 19**

8:00am-3:00pm TMVA Board - Parlor

### **Saturday, May 20**

### **Sunday, May 21**

9:15 am Sunday School for all ages  
10:30am Worship Service  
3:00pm District Conference

### **Monday, May 22**

6:30am Morning Prayer -Chapel  
9:00am-12:00pm Manos de Cristo Class - Parlor

6:00pm Girl Scouts - Gym area

6:30pm Austin Harmony - Choir room

**Tuesday, May 23**

9:00am- 1:30 pm ESL classes - Parlor

**Wednesday, May 24**

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

7:00pm Choir Rehearsal

**Thursday, May 25 Last Day of ESL Class**

9:00am-1:30pm ESL classes - Parlor

6:30pm-8:30pm Undoing Racism - Parlor

**Friday, May 26**

**Saturday, May 27**

9am-1pm Private Event - Sanctuary & Parlor

**Sunday, May 28**

9:15 am Sunday School for all ages

10:30am Worship Service

**Monday, May 29 Memorial Day Office Closed**

6:30am Morning Prayer -Chapel

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

6:00pm Girl Scouts - Gym area

6:30pm Austin Harmony - Choir room

**Tuesday, May 30**

**Wednesday, May 31**

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

7:00pm Choir Rehearsal

14th Greg Mikeska

16th Andrew Friedrich

Gary Alan Gray

17th James Leavelle

19th Mary Linda Gray

25th Lisa Schmidt Mosley

25th Vicky Schmidt Mosley

26th Don Morrison

28th Emily Anne Egbert

29th Judy Friedrich

31st Margaret Adams

**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.***



Join Your Church Every 2nd Sunday of the month for Pancake Breakfast in the Gym

May 14th 8:30am



**May Birthdays**

1st Jennifer Smith

4th Peter Vasquez

5th Sheryl Cheatham

Jessica Shelton Williams

7th Hannah Egbert

11th Hale Roy Bills

Hunter Eddie Bills

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 May 18th  
7pm in the Gym**





## Capital District Conference

### Hosted by Memorial UMC

- 2:30-3:30 FreeStore Open House (in gym)
- 3:00 District Missions Board (sanctuary)
- 3:30 District Conference (sanctuary)

In order to extend hospitality and welcome delegates from all across our district, we would love to have people come and help direct people to the place they need to go. We won't be serving refreshments, so it really is just a chance to take pride in what Memorial has been and what it is becoming with God's grace! Also, even though we only have one voting member, anyone is invited to sit in on both the Missions Board and the Conference to find out what's going on in the Capital District and rejoice at how God is moving.

Web site: [www.memorialumcaustin.com](http://www.memorialumcaustin.com)

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Memorial United Methodist Church

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

