

The Newsletter

May 2018

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

Find us on Facebook at

Memorial United Methodist Church-Austin

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May 2018

May 13th Mother's Day & Celebrating Baptism



May 20th



Travis County Election Vote at Memorial UMC



7am-7pm May 22nd In the Gym



Memorial Day May 28th

By **Billie Nixon**

Membership Coordinator



Grace K. Morris

1923-2018

Grace Kunschik Kelly Morris, of Austin, TX, passed away at the age of 94 on Sunday, March 18, 2018, due to heart failure. She was born on September 14, 1923, to Robert and Emma Kunschik in Bastrop, TX.



Grace graduated from Brackenridge School of Nursing and entered the United States Army serving during WWII in Germany. While stationed overseas, she visited Pope Pius XII in Rome, danced at Hitler's Hideout, and traveled to Austria and Switzerland. She worked as a registered nurse at Walter Reed Hospital, Brackenridge Hospital, and retired from Bergstrom Air Force Base Hospital. Her career lasted 42 years. Grace received the Army of Occupation Medal and Victory Medal. She has been honored by Honor Flight Austin with a "trip of a lifetime" to Washington, D.C., with fellow women veterans on the first of its kind from Texas. She was also cited with a City of Austin proclamation in celebration of all women veterans month.

Grace was long-time member of Memorial United Methodist of Austin. She loved traveling, fishing, hunting, and spending time with family and friends. Grace was well-known for her dough-bait recipe for fishing and caught many fish with it. She taught numerous children to fish and even many

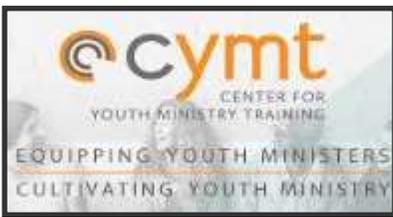
adults. Grace was a hard worker and known for her seamstress skills. She could make costumes, clothing, and even made her daughter's wedding dress. Being a nurse, Grace treated many family and friends whether it be suturing wounds or giving first aid. Grace was a giver! There wasn't much she didn't tackle. She was loved by so many and will be greatly missed.

Grace will be remembered as a loving and caring wife, mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, sister, and friend. Grace is survived by daughter, Judy Howard (Greg), step-daughters Diane Dettmann (Calvin), and Donna Morris, grandsons Ryan Howard (Sara), Joshua Emerson, granddaughter Jordan Emerson, great-grandchildren Jesi, Ryli, and Wesli Grace Howard, sister-in-laws Margaret Kunschik, Joan Sutton, Ruth Morris, and many nieces and nephews. Grace was preceded in death by her parents, husband (Dennis), and siblings (Otilie Van Vleet, Robert Kunschik, Nina Zahara, Miriam Seidenberger, and Weldon Kunschik).

In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to the charity of your choice.



What topics would you like to see in the Pastor's Corner in our monthly Newsletters? Give us a topic or scripture that you would like to see Pastor Cynthia write on and we will randomly draw from these suggestions. Please email them to secretary@memorialumcaustin.com or drop a topic card in the secretary office. Cards are on the table at the back of the sanctuary and on the front table in the Narthex.



Exciting News About Our Youth Ministry!

Over the last two years we have been praying and contemplating how to jump start our youth ministry, which has been less active since 2016. Recently we became aware of an exciting opportunity to partner with CYMT, Center for Youth Ministry Training, based at Bethany UMC here in Austin. CYMT is a holistic ministry training program for college graduates pursuing a Masters Degree in youth ministry.

This program includes a graduate residency where residents work in youth ministry at a local church 25 hours per week. During the three year program the students also attend seminary classes at Austin Presbyterian Seminary. In addition, CYMT provides a veteran youth ministry coach, small group interaction with other students in the program and assistance by CYMT staff in planning and preparing a long term vision and strategy for each participating local church's youth ministry program.

CYMT Texas is in its third year after expanding from its first regional location in Memphis, and other churches and participants in our area are giving CYMT high marks for effectiveness for both youth ministry revitalization at partner churches and career ministry preparation for graduate residents.

While becoming a CYMT partner church comes with a hefty price tag, individuals in the congregation have committed to funding a significant portion of that cost. With all of this in mind your Leadership Team and Church Council have made the decision to partner with CYMT in accepting a graduate resident to join our staff beginning sometime this summer. Our hope is that this individual can help us impact the youth related to our church and those in our surrounding neighborhoods with an effective youth outreach program and that we as a church can support that effort as well as provide a positive learning environment for this student as they pursue the call of God on their lives to youth ministry.

Look for more details about this new chapter in our youth ministry soon and for ways you can be supportive as we relaunch this vital ministry!



Recycling at Memorial

Last year, as part of our efforts to be good stewards of God's earth, Memorial UMC began a recycling program. Our goal is to put at least half

of what we throw away into the recycling bin instead of the trash, so you may have noticed that there are blue recycling bins near most trash cans at the church. You can throw paper, cardboard, glass, plastic, and cans into any of these containers, and it will get recycled!

In order to help us meet our goal of recycling half our waste, we need everyone's help. If you aren't going to take your bulletin home, put it in a blue bin. If you're done with your plastic cup after a potluck, please recycle it.



So there will be a Tomorrow

However, we can't recycle food or cardboard or paper that has food or grease on it. So, please throw any pizza boxes, food wrappers, or paper plates from potlucks in the trash.

If you want more information about recycling at Memorial, you can talk to Clayton Karrer or contact the church office. With your help, we can continue to improve our stewardship.

Office Closed for Memorial Day on Monday May 28th





The **Austin Ukulele Society (AUS)** is all about enjoying the ukulele and having fun with people who share our affection for this wonderful instrument.

Our mission is to:

Provide a supportive environment to share and learn new songs and build playing skills; Spread the word about opportunities to see and hear musicians who play or compose for the ukulele; Promote the ukulele in the "Live Music Capital of the World" through performances and education; and, of course, Have fun!

To become a member, just show up at one of our monthly meetings. There is no fee to participate.

All are welcome to join – from beginners to experienced players. We meet on the second Thursday of each month, 7:00 to 8:30pm. During our meetings we have group sing-and-strum-a-longs and educational sessions; we learn a new song at every meeting.



Help deliver meals to your neighbors in need! We are looking for weekly route drivers and Monday/Tuesday substitutes! Contact our Volunteer Services office at

512-476-6325 today!

Thanks!

Denise Jimenez

Director of Volunteer Services

3227 East 5th Street Austin, Texas 78702

www.mealsonwheelscentraltexas.org



Honor. Remember. Celebrate. This May, honor someone you love by becoming a volunteer driver for Senior Access.

Many of our senior clients are veterans and would love to be able to share their love of country with you. As a volunteer driver, you are not only a driver, but you also become a friend to someone in your community who no longer drives. This month, begin your journey of honor. For more information contact Sherrie at vr@senioracesstx.org, 512 310 1060, or visit our website at www.senioracesstx.org.

The United States and the freedom for which it stands, the freedom for which they died, must endure and prosper. Their lives remind us that freedom is not bought cheaply. It has a cost; it imposes a burden. And just as they whom we commemorate were willing to sacrifice, so too must we in a less final, less heroic way be willing to give of ourselves. —Ronald Reagan



Honor. Remember. Celebrate.



Shopping Hours

Wednesdays

11am-1pm

and Saturdays

9am-11am



Monday,
Wednesday,

Friday 10am-1pm and

Saturdays 8:30am-11am

In the Gym (not the office)

Pastor's Corner

Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. 1 Corinthians 12:4-7

During this past Advent and Christmas seasons, we talked about hands—hands that work in varieties of ways for God in our church and then the hands that assisted God in bringing Jesus into our midst. I challenged you to think about what your hands could do in many different areas, including justice, service, and worship.

Then in Lent, we spoke about feet. We talked about our feet in particular and why Jesus would want to wash them and then have us wash others' feet. We also talked about the paths our feet walk, how Jesus asks us to walk with him in the world as well as the spiritual disciplines that can keep us connected to Jesus and going in the right direction.

Now, during the season of Eastertide, we are talking about the spiritual gifts. As Paul notes in the passage above, spiritual gifts are different for everyone, though they all come from God and are used for the common good.

These three series correspond to the major seasons where the church concentrates on Jesus' birth, his death and his resurrection. It is a life cycle that we believe offers hope and redemption to each of us. And, through discovering how God has uniquely equipped each of us, as well as how God has equipped the church, we will know better how God is using us to be witnesses to the resurrection and to salvation in this world.

These series—on how we serve, on what keeps us connected to God and what gifts we are given—will be coming together at Pentecost this year. On May 20, each person in the congregation will be invited to recommit to being a part of this Body of Christ. We will have a card for you to write down what your gifts are, what spiritual disciplines you have found keep you connected to God and to what service opportunities those things lead or have led you.

Though we would love for you to let us know these things too, some of you may need to simply take the step of writing them down for yourself so that you can have something concrete to go back to when you feel adrift. You might also choose to share them with a smaller group, like a Sunday School class or a UMW circle, the choir, or another group you meet with regularly to talk about your relationship with God or do service. It may be enough for you to simply share them with a friend or a spouse or within your family and pledge to support one another.



In this, we are trying to help people see where they connect. In addition to these more individually-centered exercises, Memorial's Leadership Team has been working on developing a set of core values that names who we believe Memorial UMC is called to be, what we are called to do and how we are called to do that.

These steps are all a part of an integrated effort to help people connect to God, to one another, and to our mission field. It is my hope and prayer that you will see where you fit into this Body of Christ and that this Body of Christ will be the hands and feet of Christ in our neighborhood and beyond.

Synthia Kepler-Harrer



MAY CALENDAR

There are several ongoing events and new events that may not be listed. Please check the building use calendar or with the office if you need to reserve space.

*** Starred * Events Happen Each Week**

Tuesday May 1 *Each Tuesday

*9:00am-1:00pm English Class - Parlor

Wednesday May 2 *Each Wednesday

*10:00am-1:00pm - FreeStore Donations - Gym

*11:00am-1pm FreeStore Shopping - Gym

*6:00-9:00pm Christ Church - FHL & Kid's Rooms

*7:00pm Choir Rehearsal

Thursday May 3* Each Thursday

*9:00am-1:00pm English Class - Parlor

9:30am-12:30pm Christ Church - FHL

6:00pm Crop Hunger Walk - NEW Room

Friday May 4

*10:00am-1:00pm - FreeStore Donations - Gym

Saturday May 5 *Each Saturday

*9am-11am Free Store Shopping - Gym

Sunday May 6 Communion

9:15am Sunday School for all ages

10:30am Worship Service

Monday May 7 *Each Monday

*6:30am Morning Prayer - Chapel

*10:00am-1:00pm - FreeStore Donations - Gym

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

*6:30pm Austin Harmony - Choir room

Tuesday May 8

9:00am-1:00pm English Class - Parlor ~Last Day

6:30pm Wesley Board - Pearce

Wednesday May 9

Thursday May 10

7:00pm Austin Ukulele Society - Gym

Friday May 11

8am-2pm TMVA Board - Parlor

Saturday May 12

10am Windsor Park Neighborhood Assoc. - FHL

Sunday May 13 Mother's Day & Baptism

8:30am Pancake Breakfast - Gym

9:15am Sunday School for all ages

10:30am Worship Service

11:30am Trustees - Pearce

Monday May 14

6:30pm Finance Team - Pearce

Tuesday May 15 June Newsletter Content Due

Wednesday May 16

Thursday May 17

9:30am-12:30pm Christ Church - FHL

7:00pm Bread Church - Gym

Friday May 18

Saturday May 19

Sunday May 20 Pentecost

9:15am Sunday School for all ages

10:30am Worship Service

Monday May 21

Tuesday May 22

7am-7pm Travis County Election - Gym

Wednesday May 23

Thursday May 24

Friday May 25

Saturday May 26

Sunday May 27 Trinity Sunday

9:15am Sunday School for all ages

10:30am Worship Service

Monday May 28 OFFICE CLOSED

Tuesday May 29

Wednesday May 30

Thursday May 31

*Please Note that there are ongoing events in the same space and on the same day each week, such as: English Class, Christ Church, Choir Rehearsal, FreeStore Shopping, Morning Prayer, Girl Scouts, and more.



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
Vicky Schmidt Mosley
- 26th Don Morrison
- 28th Emily Anne Egbert
- 29th Judy Friedrich
- 31st Margaret Adams



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

May 13th 8:30am

www.MemorialUMCAustin.com



Bread Church
Thursday
7pm
May 17th in
the Gym



Pew Crosses
For Sale \$25

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).



Graduation Sunday June 3rd

Email secretary@memorialumcaustin.com or contact Billie Nixon for the graduation information form to be included in our celebration!

The Newsletter



The Wesley School is pleased to announce that they will be doing some major renovations and upgrades to their classrooms in May! After years of saving, they have been able to put aside the money they need in order to remove and replace all the flooring, paint, and even buy some new furniture.

The renovations that need to be done to remove the flooring will require us to move kids out of the wings that the contractors are working in, so don't be alarmed if you come up to the church and find an area sealed off. You may also need to check in the office to make sure that an area you want to use isn't being used already by a displaced class! The renovations are planned from May 8-May 12. We hope to have an Open House toward the end of May to show off all the hard work.

Thank you for your support of the Talent Show and Spaghetti Supper! We had excellent participation, and parents are really excited about the future of the school.

Memorial United Methodist Church
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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED