

# Memorial

April 26, 2012

## United Methodist Church

A great place to meet new friends, find needed encouragement and discover God's plan for you.

### Sunday Morning Worship

10:30 a.m.

### Sunday School

9:15-10:00 a.m.

9:00 a.m.- Prayground - Third Sundays

### April 26, 2012 Newsletter

Worship continued, pg. 2

Data Points (New feature), pg. 3

Note From the Pastor, pg. 4

Community Outreach, pg. 5

UMW Info/News from the Pew, pg. 6

Congregational Care, pg. 7

Prayers and Birthdays, pg. 8

### Church Office Hours

Mon-Thurs: 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Fridays - 8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

### Contact Us

Phone: 452.5796 Fax: 450.0323

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

Email:

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

**News by Email** - Contact the office by phone or email and give us your email address.

## Worship in May!

May 6 - We will celebrate Confirmation together, the reception of new members. Reception before the worship service from 10:00-10:30. A great day of growth for Memorial!



May 13 - Mother's Day We will honor all women in worship - bring or remember your mom or any woman who is special and important to you.



May 20 - PRAYGROUND will be happening at 9:00am and we will follow that with a celebration of our high school and college graduates in worship.



May 27 - Pentecost! As we celebrate the coming of the Holy Spirit in wind and fire, we invite you to wear flame colors (red, orange, yellow) to help us remember the Spirit alive at Memorial.



## Monday Morning

### Prayer Time - 6:15 am- Chapel

Come join us for early morning prayer at 6:15 am on Mondays in the chapel. It's a great way to start the week!

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### MAY'S SCHEDULED EVENTS

#### Tuesday, May 1

- Staff Meeting - 9:30 am
- BIF Circle - 5:30 pm - Parlor

#### Wednesday, May 2

- Bell Practice - 6:00 pm
- Choir Practice - 7:00 pm

#### Friday, May 4

- Bible Study - 10:00 am
- FIA Concert - Hope Lutheran - 7pm

#### Saturday, May 5

- WPNA - Gardening for Wildlife Workshop - FHL - 9-1pm

#### Sunday, May 6 - Confirmation Day

- Sunday School for all ages - 9:15 am
- Confirmand's Reception - 10am- Parlor
- Worship Service - 10:30 am

#### Monday, May 7

- Morning Prayer - Chapel - 6:15 am
- Boy Scouts - Gym - 7:30 pm

#### Tuesday, May 8

- Staff Meeting - 9:30 am
- Wesley School Board Mtg - 6:30 pm

#### Wednesday, May 9

- Bell Practice - 6 pm
- Choir Practice - 7 pm

#### Thursday, May 10

- Austin Ukulele Society - 7pm

continued

# Prayground!

May 20 from 9:00-9:30am in the Sanctuary

It's all ready! Invite the kids in your house and in your neighborhood to come and bring friends! Last month we celebrated with our new friend Rocky the Raccoon, and you never know who will show up next month.

In worship on May 6 and May 13 we will have postcards for you to invite the kids in your life - bring the addresses to worship, fill out the cards and we'll even mail them for you.

## Worship Planning Team Forming

Would you like to be "in" on planning awesome worship services for this summer? Our new Worship Planning Team will be meeting on May 15 at 6:30 in the Memorial Room to look at how we can help bring worship to LIFE and help people connect with Jesus.



Please let Pastor Cynthia know ahead of time that you will be there because we want people to come ready to share hopes and dreams and thoughts for what we could do together on Sunday mornings!

## Upcoming Special Offerings

*April 29* - On the Fifth Sunday's of the year, we encourage members to go beyond a tithe and give a special offering that supports our missional giving in the wider United Methodist Church. As we celebrate new life and new growth, the April 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday offering will go to support New Church Starts.

*May 6* - Our Communion offering in May will go to the Advance Special "US Spring Storms". This offering is used by UMCOR (United Methodist Committee on Relief) to help in places that received tornado damage in the months of March, April and May, including the damage here in the state of Texas.

## MAY'S SCHEDULED EVENTS

### Friday, May 11

- Wedding Rehearsal - 5:45 pm

### Saturday, May 12

- Wedding - 3 pm

### Sunday, May 13 - Mother's Day

- Sunday School for all ages - 9:15 am
- Worship Services - 10:30 am

### Monday, May 14

- Morning Prayer - Chapel - 6:15 am
- FIA - Pearce - 9-11am
- Finance Meeting - 6:30 pm
- Church Council Meeting - 7:30 pm
- Boy Scouts - Gym - 7:30 pm

### Tuesday, May 15

- Staff Meeting - 9:30 am
- Worship Planning Team - 6:30 pm

### Wednesday, May 16

- Bell Practice - 6 pm
- Choir Practice - 7 pm

### Thursday, May 17

- Lamplighters Circle - 7pm

### Friday, May 18

- State Trade Assn. - Parlor - 8-4 pm
- Bible Study - 10 am

### Sunday, May 20 - Graduation Day

- Prayground - 9 am - Sanctuary
- Sunday School for all ages - 9:15 am
- Graduate's Reception - 10 am - Parlor
- Worship Services - 10:30 am
- Reading/Library - Noon
- Youth - Noon

Continued

## *Data Points—numbers and statistics and stories*

Average Worship attendance for March: 81

*but...*Maundy Thursday attendance: 34

Good Friday Tenebrae attendance: 63

Easter Sunrise attendance: 24

We are down in worship attendance so far this year by an average of 8 every month. It's just one of the measures we use, but it can help us to remember that **we need to invite people to worship if we want them to attend.** Inviting is a part of our culture that we need to recapture. Look what we did during Holy Week - all of those numbers were up from last year!

Financial giving January - March: \$48,410

Expenses January - March: \$55,283

So...this tells our finance committee that we need to look at how we can continue to raise funds to meet our expenses. And it might tell you **that the church could really use your help in meeting our budget for ministry and mission.** This is especially important in the summer when giving typically drops - remembering the church *every month* helps to keep us going!

*But look what we're doing with what we have!*

- ◇ 4 Families directly helped by the Memorial for Christ Fund in April
- ◇ PRAYGROUND ministry started in April
- ◇ Successful Spring Fling neighborhood outreach
- ◇ Giving to UMCOR and Eastside Community Connection to feed the hungry
- ◇ 75 Children served in the Wesley School
- ◇ 8 in average attendance at Lenten Bible study
- ◇ New Fire Alarm system for the Wesley School - install starts late April
- ◇ Hosting Windsor Park Neighborhood events
- ◇ 5 members attended Re-think: Green in March and are already implementing ideas
- ◇ Worship planning team for the summer meets in May



## MAY'S SCHEDULED EVENTS

### Sunday, May 20, continued

- Youth - Noon
- Annual Board of Missions - 3pm  
- El Emmanuel UMC
- District Conference - 4 pm  
- El Emmanuel UMC

### Monday, May 21

#### Newsletter Deadline

- Morning Prayer - Chapel - 6:15 am
- Boy Scouts - Gym - 7:30 pm

### Tuesday, May 22

- Staff Meeting - 9:30 am

### Wednesday, May 23

- Bell Practice - 6 pm
- Choir Practice - 7 pm

### Thursday, May 24

- News Crew - 1 pm

### Sunday, May 27-Pentecost Sunday

- Sunday School for all ages - 9:15 am
- Worship Services - 10:30 am
- Youth - Noon

### Monday, May 28 - Memorial Day

#### Office Closed

- Morning Prayer - Chapel - 6:15 am
- Boy Scouts - Gym - 7:30 pm

### Tuesday, May 29

- Staff Meeting - 9:30 am

### Wednesday, May 30

- Bell Practice - 6 pm
- Choir Practice - 7 pm



## Note From the Pastor

As I write this, it's mid-April, and the blooms are just coming out on our Easter lilies.

Easter lilies? Aren't we done with that?

The blooms on the plants that we have in our sanctuary on Easter Sunday fade quickly. We purchased those lilies on the Tuesday before Easter, and many of the blooms that were perky then had to be dead-headed before worship on Sunday morning. Though beautiful, the bloom of the lily is not as long-lasting as we hope.

So why am I talking about blooming lilies? How do we go from short-lived potted plant to blooming, year after year, living and green?

Every year, after Easter, most of the lilies that have been given in honor or memory of someone are picked up and taken home. Sometimes people donate them back to the church to go to shut ins - or it's like this year when we had only lilies that had already given up all their blooms left.

But sometimes we plant them. There are some in one of the planter boxes in the courtyard right now. They take root and then the lilies live on to bloom year after year, offering fragrant flowers.

It's like a bonus Easter.

Our spiritual lives are like that too - we can have this awesome, glorious experience that comes from Easter Sunday, but unless we get rooted and stay with it, the gift we've been given just withers and fades. But if we get "planted", our roots begin to establish connection, get fed and we stay alive, year after year.

How do you get planted at Memorial UMC? Why not try a Bible study, Sunday School class or helping out with Playground? We'll have some opportunities for short-term projects, like Vacation Bible School. There's involvement with our community partners - like Faith in Action Caregivers or Windsor Park Neighborhood Association. And there's always United Methodist Women or any of our wonderful musical ensembles and even a simple daily commitment to pray for our ministry.

So get planted...get rooted in the body of Christ. And bring on Easter all over again.



## CONSIDER JOINING BOY SCOUTS

Action, Adventure, Fitness and fun are all part of Boy Scouts. Go camping and rafting. Cooking, first aid, riflery, rock climbing, archery, sports and photography are just a few of the great things to learn and do.

Who: 5<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Boys

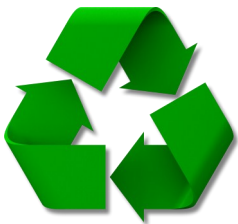
Where: Memorial United Methodist Church,  
6100 Berkman Drive

When: Mondays 7:30-9:00 pm

Contact Scoutmaster:

Brian Kent at 577-5523 or

email: b0k3nt@yahoo.com



### Think Green on Memorial Day Weekend!

Did you know that from Saturday, May 26 through Monday, May 28, the state of Texas offers a sales tax holiday on Energy Star appliances? If you're thinking of replacing a dishwasher or air conditioner, refrigerator or clothes washer, buy Energy Star and save money and energy!



**Faith in Action Caregivers**



**Northeast Austin**

**presents**

**Seventeenth Annual Choral Concert**

**"A Night of Notes"**

**Friday, May 4, 2012 - 7:00 pm**

@

**Hope Lutheran Church**

**6414 North Hampton Drive, 78723**

Come see and hear a FREE performance

All contributions gratefully accepted.

Remember that **100%** of your contribution directly benefits the many valuable programs at

***Faith in Action Caregivers – North East Austin.***

Refreshments will immediately follow the program.

***"A Neighbor's Independence Depends On You"***

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**WPNA – Ryan Fleming's**

**Gardening for Wildlife Workshop**

**Saturday, May 5**

**9-1pm**

**FHL Classroom**

Ryan Fleming's workshop on Gardening for Wildlife, which was Windsor Park's prize in the 2011 Habitat Challenge. It will be open to all in Windsor Park and will include a classroom presentation followed by visits to nearby gardens. Call the church office, 452-5796, for more information.



**News from the Pew**  
**by Billie Nixon**

**New Baby**

Congratulations to our friend Rachelle Webb in the birth of her first grandchild. Jax Lee Wolfe-Maner, who was born on Monday, April 16, 2012, at Seton Hospital, at 9:23 a.m., and weighed 6 pounds 13 ounces. Proud parents are Amber Wolfe and Wesley Maner. They are so proud of their first child and also live in Austin. Their happy baby already weighs 7 pounds 4 ounces and his lungs are perfect.

May God bless each of you with good health, love and happiness.

**Graduates**

On May 20, 2012, Memorial will be honoring our Graduates with a reception in the parlor from 10:00 to 10:30 a.m., and also during the 10:30 a.m. worship service. If you are a graduate or know of one please call the church office at 452-5796, so that person will not be forgotten.

**Tree Dedication**

Sunday, April 22, 2012, immediately following worship, the congregation adjourned to the front lawn to dedicate a tree in memory of Bill Bennink. The tree was donated by Bill's first cousin from New York State and Jo -Ann (Bill's wife) chose to have it planted at Memorial because the church meant so much to both of them. Bill's father, daughter and their family and many church members gathered for this wonderful celebration. Bill will not be forgotten for his kind and gentle gifts and talents.

**Sympathy**

Love and concern go to the family of Frank Linden, Jr., age 53, of Cedar Park, who died Sunday, April 15, 2013.

He was the son of Frank Linden ,Sr. and Joan Linden, who were members at Memorial for years. Both of them preceded him in death. Remember that with God there are no endings - only endless beginnings.

**DISTRICT CONFERENCE**

Our Mission Board/District Conference/Unification Proposal meeting on Sunday, May 20 will be at Emmanuel UMC, located in central Austin at 200 Brushy St. This is a perfect location for the conversation which will include our sisters and brothers from the 4 Rio Grande congregations within the bounds of the Austin District. It is crucial that clergy and lay delegates understand the proposal that will be before us prior to arriving at conference this June. The Mission Board and District Conference will convene at 3:00 pm, followed at 4:00 by a presentation from the Unification Steering Team which will conclude with Holy Communion.

A reminder that the District meeting is open to anyone who wishes to attend. Only Annual Conference delegates will have voice and vote.



Pick up your ACTS envelopes in the narthex and put a smile on our shut-ins faces when they receive their card!

**United Methodist Women**  
**by Jane Friedrich**

BIF will have a special program on May 1, 2012, in the parlor at 5:30 p.m., (YEP, 5:30 p.m.) The Rainbow Ladies will present our program at that time. They're excited about it, we're excited about it, and you will be as well. Everyone is invited to this event. A word about the different time - the ladies all work and this is the best time of day for them to be with us. We will have light refreshments for all to enjoy! Please join us in making this a special time for these active members of Memorial.

Reading ad Library will meet on May 13. Response and World Outlook publications will be received. Kay Dunbar will give the book review.

Lamplighters will meet May 17, at 7:00 p.m., in the N.E.W. classroom to complete projects and start new ones.

**Newsletter Deadline - Monday, May 21**



**Memorials in Loving Memory were given for:**

**Bill Bennink**

Minda & Barry Egbert

**Marvle Bissett**

Katherine Eaker  
Minda & Barry Egbert  
Nancy & Carl Helge

**Cecil Angermann**

Tracy Else

**A Special Note to BIF Group**

Thank you to all my friends who help me celebrate my 87<sup>th</sup> birthday on April 3<sup>rd</sup>. I will always remember the hugs and special words expressed by you to make me feel so appreciated. Thank you for the love you showed me. I really felt like a "Queen" - crown and all.

Thank you,

Dorothy Johnson

*Heartfelt Thanks*

I'd like to express my heartfelt thanks for all the prayers, cards, phone calls, and Pastor Cynthia's visits during my recent surgery and recovery. You make me feel loved and blessed.

With love,

Norma Jones

**Immediate Prayers**

Wesley School (Rising Star Assessment)

Alma Madison      Laurie Dennig

Weldon Friedrich (Jane Friedrich's brother-in-law)

**Continuing Prayers**

Dorothy Dennig (William Dennig's mother)

Ozelma Goodlett (Connie Tatom's mother)

Barbara Compton (Cleo Wilson's daughter)

Baylea Wagener (Jo-Ann Bennink's great niece)

Lillian Dahan (Jack Dahan's Grandmother )

Charles Lipscomb (Margi Bienemann's cousin)

Wendy Snyder (Susan Froebel's friend)

Frank Viduya (Ron Frederick's friend's father)

Don Morrison      Everette Owens      Barbara Metzger

Norma Jones      Gaines Leavelle      Jo-Ann Bennink

Bill Head      Betty Sampler      Diana Valstro

Greg Mikeska      Kathy Gray

Eddie & Virginia Smith      Wanda Stout Adams

Pat & Dave Teaney      Bob & Annabelle Turner

*Thank You*

Thank you to all my friends at Memorial for all the cards, calls, and prayers during my recent and short stay in the hospital. I am back to normal, walking my dog and doing the regular activities and feeling great. Thanks to Pastor Cynthia for her visits and prayer.

With love,

Dorothy Johnson

# May Birthdays

- |                          |                        |
|--------------------------|------------------------|
| 1 Jennifer Smith         | 18 Norma Jones         |
| 5 Sheryl Cheatham        | 19 Mary Linda Gray     |
| Jessica Shelton Williams | 25 Lisa Schmidt Mosley |
| 7 Hannah Egbert          | 26 Don Morrison        |
| 11 Hale Roy Bills        | 28 Emily Anne Egbert   |
| Hunter Eddie Bills       | Verne Ferguson         |
| 14 Greg Mikeska          | 29 Judy Friedrich      |
| 16 Andrew Friedrich      | 31 Margaret Adams      |
| Gary Alan Gray           |                        |
| 17 James Leavelle        |                        |



Memorial United Methodist Church  
6100 Berkman Drive  
Austin, Texas 78723  
Phone: 512-452-5796  
Fax: 512-450-0323

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

**TO:**

**Sunday Services - Rev. Cynthia Kepler-Karrer**

9:15 a.m.-Sunday School (all ages)

10:30 a.m.-Worship Service

**Wesley School - Chris Banda, Director (467-9740)**

**Church Office Hours**

**Church Secretary - Joanne Macon**

8:30 a.m.– 12 noon and 1- 4:00 p.m.

Monday through Thursday

Fridays - 8:30 - 12:30 pm

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