

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 9:30-10:15 a.m.

Worship - 11:00 a.m.

Find all our Newsletters on our

Web site: www.memorialumcaustin.com

Find us on Facebook at

Memorial United Methodist Church-Austin

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November 2021

November
7th



November
21st

(Both Events)



Extended Advent
Begins

November 14th



CLOSE to
HOME



News From pews

By Billie Nixon



Dorothy Ann Langston (Aunt Dot or Dottie) passed away at the age of 80 on Saturday, October 2nd. She grew up in Austin, Texas graduating from McCallum High School in 1959. She worked many years for Southwestern Bell, retiring from there to help out her mother at home and become partners with her in a floral business.

Dorothy belonged to many groups and organizations throughout her life, such as Mary Rebekah Lodge, Sisters of the Nile, Rainbow Girls, Ladies Auxiliary of VFW, Knights of Columbus Ladies Auxiliary, and Eastern Star. Whether it was helping serve meals, leading prayers, or serving as an Officer/Board Member for these many different organizations, Dorothy was always willing to place others before herself and volunteer.

She is preceded in death by her parents Thomas Edwin Langston and Marguerite Langston, her sister and two brothers Ann Lane Cousineau, Thomas Warren Langston, and David Allen Langston. She is survived by her brother-in-law Tom Cousineau, sister-in-law Lillian Langston, her nephew John R. Lane, his wife Lisa, their daughter Amanda Griffin and her husband Jonathan with their children Zoe and Gideon, nephew Rick Lane and his wife Monica with their sons Grayson and Weston, nephew Warren Davis Langston and his fiance Allison Stalter.

Memorial Services were held at Weed Corley Fish Funeral Home Austin, TX on Friday October 8th at 10:30am. Graveside service followed at Austin Memorial Park Austin, Texas. Fond memories and expressions of sympathy may be shared at www.wcfishnorth.com for the Langston family.

November 7, 2021



Janet Clark 10/15/20

Katherine Kelley 11/6/20

Larry Tiemann 3/4/21

David Chandler 3/18/21

Norma Hauser 4/28/21

Don Morrison 7/2/21

Dorothy Langston 10/2/21



Memorial Thanksgiving Dinner and 90+ Celebration (2020 & 2021)

November 21st

After Service in the Gym

Check your email for details and contact Billie Nixon at 512-923-4400 to volunteer!

COVID-19 UPDATE

Now that we are back to Stage 3 status, our Re-Engagement Task Force is asking everyone to follow our Stage 3 protocol. That protocol requests that everyone, regardless of vaccination status, remain masked when entering and moving through the building, but allows vaccinated persons to remove their masks when seated. Unvaccinated persons are required to wear masks at all times. We encourage you if you are eligible and you have no conditions that cause the doctor to discourage you from getting the vaccine to get it. It keeps us all safer.



October 31st

5pm-7pm

Memorial Parking Lot

Come join us!

November Birthdays



- 4th Karl Amundson
- 7th Holly (Shelton) Wright
- 10th Wanda Stout Adams
- 11th Mary Beth O'Hanlon
- 15th Afton Pomerleau Cherry
Richard Macon
Gerry Almquist
Susan Froebel
- 16th Jonathan Ader
- 17th Jessica Christine McFarland
- 18th Stefani Stephens
- 21st Peter Osgood
- 24th Bob Hauser
- 25th Pat Gibson
Barbara Metzger
Michael Stratton
Cesar Benavides
- 27th David Elliott
Billie Nixon
- 28th Ronald Dee Gray





Senior Access invites you to our 27th annual Mistletoe

Magic concert. Kick off your holiday season with local church and community choirs. This concert directly benefits the senior clients we serve. We are grateful we get to serve such a wonderful population and want to continue growing so that we can help even more. We look forward to being together for this event.



Fall Schedule

10/31/20 **Trunk-Or-Treat**
 Church Parking Lot

11/7/21 11/21/21 12/5/21
6pm-8pm in Youth Room & Gym



REMINDER—please keep praying for our schools at 5:11pm daily!

We will be gathering prayers of thanks for our November 28 service. What are you thankful for in this time? Send us a message, and we will include your thanksgivings in our worship service!



Bread Church to Resume
November 18th
7pm Gym Kitchen





The Pastor's Corner

For the past several years, we have been starting our Advent early, a longer season of preparation which encompasses themes of Christ's coming to Bethlehem that has already been and Christ's coming in glory that is yet to be. It also brings in our remembrance of Christ's Sovereignty and our cultural remembrance of Thanksgiving. As I conclude my time of renewal leave, I am grateful to give you these words, which were written by the group that created many of the resources we will use with our Advent theme: Close to Home. This year, our Advent will begin on Sunday, November 14.



When something hits close to home, it affects us deeply. During the Advent and Christmas season, we journey through scriptures and rituals that are tender, heavy with emotion, and vulnerable. We carry the memories and truths of this season close to our hearts. *Close to Home* acknowledges the “already but not yet” tension of our faith: Emmanuel is with us, and yet, God’s promised day—our everlasting home—is not fully realized. It names our deep longing for God to come close to us.

The Advent and Christmas scriptures are rich with home metaphors and imagery. John the Baptist prophesies about the One who is to come, but reminds us that we are still wandering far from God’s promised day; his message hits close to home, especially for those experiencing inequity and oppression. After receiving the angel’s news, Mary retreats to Elizabeth’s home, seeking refuge and safety. Christ is born in the midst of a journey home, in a crowded dwelling space amidst livestock and shepherds alike. The Magi travel far from home to pay homage to Christ, and, having been warned in a dream, they avoid Herod by traveling home another way. In these scriptures, home is both physical and metaphorical, something we seek and something we are called to build. Ultimately, God is our home and resting place. God draws near and makes a home on earth—sacred ground is all around us.

Close to Home also names the pain many of us will carry into this season. The holidays can poke at our grief. Many will be missing loved ones lost to sickness and tragedy. The traumas of the pandemic will still be with us. Many will have lost homes—due to natural disasters, economic hardship, and unjust policies. Many do not feel safe in their own homes due to poor living conditions or harmful family dynamics. Many feel alone and isolated at home. Churches are discerning transitions with their physical buildings; many of our spiritual homes are changing.

This Advent, may we be comforted by the One who dwells intimately with us. May we expand safety and sanctuary for everyone wandering far from home. May we come home— wherever home is found—to live fully with joy, hope, and courage. —from the team at *A Sanctified Art*.

Synthia Kepler-Harrer

Hanging of the Greens
December 5th



Luminaries and other
Christmas Decor



Order Forms Coming Soon!
Keep a look out in your email
for more information.

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