

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

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Memorial United Methodist Church-Austin

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November 2022



Nov. 6th

Extended Advent: Begins Nov. 13th



November 13—A Healing Fire

November 20—The Last Thanksgiving

November 27—Signs of the Already

December 4—Sprouts from the Stump

December 11—Life in the Desert

December 18—What If?

Each week in worship, we will be handing out daily devotionals for the week. You can also sign up for a daily text question (on your phone) that can keep you in tune with seeing God working in the world.



church news



Extended Advent Begins November 13th

Change is at hand. Something unexpected is happening, and we're in the midst of it.

Out of the blue, something new is arriving like lightning: transformation, wonder, justice, joy. From generation to generation, God has been dreaming of this moment. Inevitably, it catches us by surprise, just like it surprised our ancestors in faith: Sarah, Abraham, Tamar, Rahab, Ruth, Mary, Joseph. God's time is now. It's here to reorient our expectations and to sweep us into a future of hope and promise, even if we didn't expect it, even if it wasn't part of our plans.

This November and December, we invite you to join the flow of an Advent season that sweeps us off our feet, carries us forward, and invites us to join God in God's creative work. We'll trace God's plans for justice and peace with the genealogy of Jesus and the witness of the saints who followed him. We'll be surprised by a thicket of new shoots from the stump of Jesse. We'll find God beguiling us by inviting us to imagine something new, regardless of what came before. And if we're worried about the future and afraid of letting go of the familiar outlines of our lives, God will meet us there too.

The highway has always extended past the familiar exit. The music is already written. The dance is underway. But the moment of change seems to come out of the blue, altering our expectations and creating a future we never thought possible.

It's Advent, and change is coming out of the blue. What will God reveal to us this season?



November Birthdays

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



Betty Lou Sampler 3/7/22



Join Us
THANKSGIVING
DINNER

Memorial Thanksgiving Dinner
November 20th

After Service in the Parlor

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



Wesley Recreation Center is a free sports program for incoming 5th and 6th Graders. For the fall we will be offering soccer on Mondays from 3:30 pm to 5:30 pm. The program will include instruction, games, and free time. There is no fee, but pre-registration is required. If you have any questions please contact Kendall Smith 512-844-6809 or Kathleen Beutenmueller 920-980-7313.

Dates: November 7, 14, 21, 28, December 5 & 12



United Women in Faith

Pancake Breakfast

2nd Sunday of each month in the Gym Kitchen/FHL
8:30am Nov. 13h





UWF meets the 3rd Wednesday of each month
10:30am in Pearce Nov. 16

Gloria: Overview of Church History

November Schedule



November 13th

November 20th Church Wide Thanksgiving Luncheon

November 27th



Bread Church

November 17th
7pm Gym Kitchen

Two Too Many" A Picture Give Away



While waiting for church to start, take some time to browse through the pictures in the Narthex. We have doubles of so many pictures and want to share with everyone. Please take the picture of your family and friends who have moved away. Please Share.

Do you remember?

IT MADE THE NEWSPAPER

From the Austin American Monday,
September 17, 1956

“HEAVEN TREE LEFT WHERE CHURCH WAS”

Written by Lorraine Barnes

The Heaven tree could be found at Central Methodist Church at 13th street and Colorado. The Heaven tree was not moved with the Parish Hall to the new location at 6100 Berkman



Drive because it is an invasive species. No one remembers the tree being planted, not even the older members of the church. Therefore, the best guess is the Heaven tree was there when the church bought the building.

The Heaven tree is from Asiatic. The seeds were thought to be brought in by clipper ships to ports like New York. In 1950's they could be found in Brooklyn lining the streets because of their umbrella-like spread of branches atop a long slim trunk. The Heaven tree can be found in folk tales and myths in many cultures.

Dr. Griffin was the pastor when they picked up Parish Hall and moved it across town. Parish Hall was W. W. II barracks, which the church had bought back from the State, so they would have a building to worship in while waiting for the new church to be built. While moving Parish Hall across town the roof dropped. Then the first heavy rain in months made the ceiling fall. Dr. Griffin said “But we didn't miss a service, the people were wonderful They laughed about the ceiling and said they felt like pioneers.”

The article looks back at the beginning of the church in 1873 and reports the plans for the new church building. There was only one error in the article reporting that the sanctuary would seat 40, it was supposed to say: 400.

GOOGLE THIS

Where is the largest Methodist Church in the world?



How many churches in Texas are named Memorial Methodist?

What year did the dedication of Texas historical marker for the Swedish Central Methodist Church?



What the name of the longest surviving Swedish newspaper in Texas?

Austin is known for being which capital of the world?

- A. live music
- B. food truck
- C. tattoo
- D. all of the above



Before the streets in Austin were numbers, what did they name the streets after?

- A. flowers
- B. letters
- C. trees
- D. people





The Pastor's Corner

Let's not get tired of doing good, because in time we'll have a harvest if we don't give up. So then, let's work for the good of all whenever we have an opportunity, and especially for those in the household of faith. (Galatians 6:9-10, CEB)

Lately, I've been getting a lot of "opportunity" phone calls and emails...as in "this is a great opportunity for us to sell you something based on whether we can convince you that you need it" kinds of opportunities.

I don't need any of it.

But I have also had some phone calls and emails that have led to marvelous opportunities, many of which have stretched me and challenged me, like the recent trip I had to Puerto Rico. Learning about the work that the churches of Puerto Rico are doing with so many fewer resources than most of us have was both humbling and convicting as well.



Opportunities in the neighborhood: hosting the Yardstravaganza with the Women of Windsor group is another challenge because I know that many people in the group are leery of religion of any kind. But it teaches me how to be who I am, offering the love of Christ without becoming pushy or showy.

And sometimes it's difficult to know whether a situation is an opportunity or if it's a trap. It's difficult to know if the help I could offer is out of humility and genuinely a call from God or whether it's because I want to be involved in everything.

The opportunities we never need to let go by are the ones where we are asked for help and we have the ability to do so in a way that still allows us to be the Body of Christ. Opportunities like going to serve breakfast to the teachers at Harris, like opening up our gym kitchen to Meals on Wheels, like hosting Wesley Rec events. And there are also opportunities in worship—to see it not only as something that addresses our own wants and needs, but an opportunity to look around and notice who is there and who could use a friend or maybe is looking a little lost.

I believe that we as followers of Christ need to be constantly aware of opportunities, to wonder in every moment if this is an opportunity for us to learn or to share or to listen or to serve. And not to just keep spending time thinking about opportunities that have passed us by or wishing that we had the same opportunities we did in the past. Because God keeps showing up, and every day is an opportunity to serve and follow Christ.

What opportunities excite you? Which ones unnerve you? Which do you feel called to but unequipped for? Which do you need to tell others about and help to equip them for?

As we go into our Advent series, "Out of the Blue", I hope that we see opportunities everywhere—to serve one another, but also to invite **and** welcome others into the love of God.

Synthia Kepler-Hauer



2022 Charge Conference



In Person
November 20th
3pm at

NorthWest Hills UMC

7050 Village Center Dr, Austin, TX 78731

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Hanging of the Greens 2022

Dec. 4th