# The Newsletter October 2015

#### **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

#### Email:

#### secretary@memorialumcaustin.com

Church Office Hours

Monday - Friday: 8:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Monday, Thursday, and Friday

12:30 pm-3:00 pm

Phone: 512. 452.5796

Fax: 512.450.0323

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# Blessing of the Animals Sunday, October 4 3:00 PM Front Lawn



Trunk or Treat Saturday, October 31 5:30-7:30 PM

Volunteers and Candy are Needed!

See inside article for more info.

# News from the Pews



Congratulations to Barbara Metzger in the birth of another grandchild. Oliver

Donald Dolcesino was born in early September weighing 7lbs. 7 oz. and 19.5 inches long. He is the son of Taryn Stewart of Austin.

Now, let me see if I have it right. Barbara has 2 children, 2 granddaughters, and now 2 great grandsons. Her grandson, Kris Ariola was born to Taylor Stewart in August last year.

I guess we know what Barbara will be doing from now on! God blesses us in many ways. Congratulations again from all of your Methodist family.

Y'ALL COME Thanks

Thank you to each one for your attendance, food, and help in our recent dinner. It's getting harder all the time to prepare and sponsor our events, but with your help, we can do it! Thank you again for another successful dinner.

Submitted by Billie Nixon, Membership Coordinator

## MONTHLY PANCAKE BREAKFAST



Come join your church family for a pancake breakfast on October 4 at 8:30 AM.



# Women's News

The United Methodist Women (UMW) is back in action after a brief summer break. BIF (Bible Information and Fellowship) which meets the first Tuesday of the month, has enjoyed DVD's of comedian, Dennis Swanberg, that have left us laughing until we're sore. Dennis is a Baptist preacher, formerly a Methodist, who graduated from Reagan and is a relative of some of our members. He is nationally known for his Christian humor. The Honeybees, which is the crafting circle of UMW and meets on the other Tuedays of the month, sold items at the Y'all Come dinner and netted over \$70.00 in sales. Reading and Library group, which meets on the second Wednesday of the month, discussed an article on learning to deal with difficult people- a common experience for many of us. And Lamplighters, which is the UMW group that maintains the altar, are waiting for cooler weather to work on the banner storage.

Several members plan to attend the Capital District Meeting on September 26th at Crestview UMC. Two or three members will attend the Rio Texas Conference Meeting in San Antonio in October.

Breakfast is served the first Sunday of each month. September's donations were \$53.00. Some folks eat free or donate whatever they can.

The nominating committee met and the officers for 2015 will remain in the same slots for 2016. Patty Marcum received a special membership pen in honor of her service. Our unit will be recognized as a Five Star Unit at the District and Conference Meetings and Alberta Shelton will be recognized as a Five Star Woman. Alberta Shelton is also serving as the 2nd Vice President of Church Women United.

Unit member Stephanie Lacy has joined the Montopolis Friendship Center Board as overseer and liaison for the school. This brings the number from Memorial's unit serving at the Center to five.

Respectfully submitted,

Alberta Shelton, President UMW



# **YOUTH NEWS**

**UMYF-United Methodist Youth Fellowship** 

I am excited to announce that starting September 20th we have a new youth intern. Yay! The new youth intern's name is Tayler Johnson. He has been very involved in The Wesley Foundation, our Methodist Campus Ministry to UT and other college students in Austin, and we met in June at Annual Conference in Corpus.

Tayler and I have already started working on a great fall schedule of events, so join us as we begin to shape what our youth ministry will look like in the coming months. See Tayler's introduction below and see you on Sunday!

Hi my name is Tayler Johnson. I was born in Weatherford, Texas but have spent most of my life in Corpus Christi (If you know and love Whataburger, that's mostly what we're known for). I currently attend the University of Texas (Hook'em Horns!), and I major in Corporate Communication (basically I like to speak and give speeches). I am pretty extroverted and love meeting new people. I was an all around athlete in high school and absolutely love being outdoors, but movies are also pretty great. My favorite movie is Forrest Gump. My favorite food is steak and potatoes. I love surfing, being with friends, watching movies, playing sports, fishing, and long walks on the beach... just kidding about that last one. I accepted Christ when I was in the 4th grade but fell away when I was in the 7th. I didn't fully come back until my junior year of high school when I got involved in Young Life. Over this past spring break, I went on a mission trip and would say I found my calling to go into ministry. I don't know exactly what that looks like, but I believe it

has something to do with going into missions or being a pastor or maybe even being a missional pastor. This past summer, I had the opportunity of being an intern at my church in Corpus and I absolutely enjoyed serving others and talking to kids. I cannot wait to meet y'all and begin this new journey with each and every one of y'all.

Oct 4 Youth outing, possibly bowling??
Oct 9-10 Lock-in! More details soon!
Oct 18 Freestore Workday 1 pm to 3 pm
Oct 25 UMYF 12-2 pm

Feel free to contact Kendall for more information, 512-844-6809 or kendallsmith@accentfoods.com.

See you on Sunday!

Kendall



### **Wednesday Rehearsals**

Choir @ 7:00 pm

We will be interviewing for a new choir director, so come sing with us.

# Events



#### **Trunk or Treat**

A Safe Halloween Alternative
Saturday, October 31
Setup - 5:00 pm
Event - 5:30 - 7:30 pm

# Volunteers and Candy are Needed!

Volunteers and candy are needed for Memorial UMC's "Trunk or Treat" on Saturday, October 31, at 5:30 pm. Join us by decorating your car trunk for Halloween and passing out candy. If you can help as a volunteer or by donating some candy, please talk to Kendall or Laura Smith for more information. or call the church office at 512-452-5796. Please place your candy donations in the basket in the back of the church or leave it at the church office.



# Blessing of the Animals Sunday, October 4 3:00 PM Front Lawn

### A few things to remember:

- All pets should be restrained on a leash or in a kennel
- If you have an anxious or aggressive pet you can choose to bring one of your pet's toys to be blessed in place of your pet.



## **CALENDAR**

#### Saturday, October 3, 2015

10:00 am - Blessing of the animals at Animal Trustees of Austin

#### Sunday, October 4, 2015

8:30 am - UMW Pancake Breakfast

9:15 am - Sunday School for all ages

10:30 am - Worship Service

12:00 pm - UMYF Youth group going bowling

3:00 pm - Blessing of the Animals (front lawn)

#### Monday, October 5

6:15 am - Morning Prayer -Chapel

6:00 pm - Girl Scouts—Gym area

7:00 pm - Austin Harmony– Choir room

7:30 pm - Boy Scouts -Gym area

#### Tuesday, October 6

9:30 am - Staff meeting

9:30 am - BIF (Bible Information Fellowship United Methodist Women

#### Wednesday, October 7

10:00 am - Wesley School Chapel

7:00 pm - Choir Rehearsal—Choir room

#### Thursday, October 8, 2015

7:00 pm - Austin Ukulele Society– gym

#### Friday, October 9

Youth Lock-In

#### Saturday, October 10

10:00 am - Windsor Park Neighborhood Association Monthly Meeting- gym

#### Sunday, October 11

9:15 am - Sunday School for all ages

10:30 am - Worship Service

11:30 am - Trustees– Pearce Room

#### Monday, October 12

6:15 am - Morning Prayer -Chapel

6:00 pm - Girl Scouts—Gym area

6:30 pm - Church Council - Pearce

7:00 pm - Austin Harmony– Choir room

7:30 pm - Boy Scouts -Gym area

#### **Tuesday, October 13**

9:30 am - Staff meeting

9:30 am - Honeybees Women's Crafting Group

7:00 pm - Wesley Board - Pearce

#### Wednesday, October 14

10: 00 am - Wesley School Chapel

7:00 pm - Choir Rehearsal—Choir room

7:00 pm - UMW Reading and Library group

#### Thursday, October 15

Friday, October 16

Saturday, October 17

#### Sunday, October 18- Memorial for Christ

9:15 am - Sunday School for all ages

10:30 am - Worship Service

11:30 am - Church Conference -Parlor

1:00 pm - UMYF- youth help at Free Store

#### Monday, October 19

6:15 am - Morning Prayer -Chapel

6:00 pm - Girl Scouts—Gym area

7:00 pm - Austin Harmony– Choir room

7:30 pm - Boy Scouts -Gym area

#### Tuesday, October 20

9:30 am - Staff Meeting

9:30 am - Honeybees UMW crafting group

#### Wednesday, October 21

10:00 am - Wesley School Chapel

7:00 pm - Choir Rehearsal

#### Thursday, October 22

Friday, October 23

Saturday, October 24

## **CALENDAR**

#### **CONTINUED**

#### Sunday, October 25

9:15 am - Sunday School for all ages

10:30 am - Worship Service

12:00 pm - UMYF- youth in gym

#### Monday, October 26

6:15 am - Morning Prayer -Chapel

6:00 pm - Girl Scouts -Gym area

7:00 pm - Austin Harmony– Choir room

7:30 pm - Boy Scouts -Gym area

#### **Tuesday, October 27**

9:30 am - Staff Meeting

9:30 am - Honeybees, UMW Crafting group

#### Wednesday, October 28

10:00 am - Wesley School Chapel

7:00 pm - Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, October 29

Friday, October 30

Saturday, October 31

5:00 pm -Set Up for Trunk or Treat

5:30 pm -Trunk or Treat

#### **Building Use Calendar**



Any group wanting to use a room at the church for a meeting needs to make

arrangements with the church office. You can make a one-time reservation or an on-going reservation.



# Birthdays

#### October Birthdays

1st Clayton Karrer

2nd Rachelle Webb

4th Syble Berglund

5th Frances Beerwinkle

7th Clifford Brown

15th Jane Shive

Curt Swenson

17th Ann Bryant

20th Malena Pomerleau Peterson

22nd John Adams

Sandra Davis

25th Ed Owens

29th Jo-Ann Bennink

30th David Teaney

All members are invited to

#### **Memorial's Church Conference**

With District Superintendent,

Rev. Teresa Wellborn

October 18th

11:30 AM

In the Parlor

Lunch will be served

# Pastor's Corner

A couple of weeks ago, I attended a retreat on Living and Dying Baptismally. Since teaching the course on sacraments for the UMW a couple of years ago, I have renewed my passion for and love of our sacraments—baptism and holy communion. Getting to preside at the Table is one of the most wonderful parts of any given month for me because I get to remind people that we aren't just wandering around, doing our best to make an ethical decision here and a moral choice there and trying to fit it all in with what's going on around us, culturally and politically and economically, etc. Instead, we are connected to an amazing story of life and death and life eternal, and in this act of remembrance, we are saying that the ancient story still has life in us—life that we accept all over again as both grace (because we are sinners) and power (because we are forgiven).

But the Font is something I don't get to do very often, and I was both convicted and convinced that I've been doing it wrong. Not doing the actual act of baptizing people wrong, but that I haven't been placing the font in the center of the congregation more often to remind us that we are a baptized people. That it really does matter that we are baptized, not as a "Get Out of Hell Free" card, but as a way of naming the story to which we tie ourselves—the story of Jesus.

It's not just that we are called to remember the actual act of our baptism (which for some of us was when we were too young to remember), but to remember that WE ARE BAPTIZED. That we accepted the freedom and power to reject sin and oppression and injustice *in whatever forms they present themselves*.

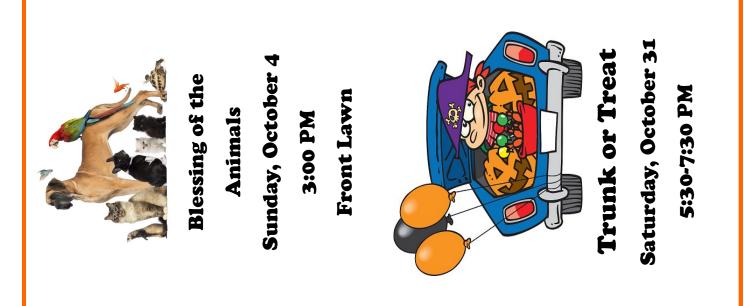
It's not just that we've gotten into a bath and are now left to our own devices. It's that we have become a part of a community whose job is precisely to help us remember that we have this power and this freedom. It's to call us into account when we misuse or just plain don't use that power.

John Wesley didn't form Methodists as a church. He formed them into groups who would meet for accountability—one of the accountabilities being "are you going to church"? The classes, bands and societies he formed did not so much worship together as they asked each other "how is it with your soul"?

But the answer to that question went beyond "how are you feeling today about God?" The answer was in whether or not you had been praying, whether or not you had gone to worship, whether or not you had taken Communion, whether or not you were doing all the good you could, whether or not you were hurting or harming others by your actions. It took courage and honesty to be in those groups. It held them closely to their baptisms.

Who is that group for you? I am interested in what it would be like to form small accountability groups at Memorial. I am interested to know if there are any groups like this that I don't know about. How are you living out your baptism, not just on your own, but in a community of people who is willing to hold you accountable, not just for the hard parts, but also to celebrate all that God is doing inside of you?

ynthia Kepler-Karrer



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