

# The Newsletter

## September 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](http://www.memorialumcaustin.com)

Find us on Facebook at

Memorial United Methodist Church-Austin

Email:

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

Phone: 512. 452.5796

Fax: 512.450.0323



### In this issue:

News from the Pews.....	2
Obituaries & Youth .....	3
Pastor's Corner.....	4
Calendar .....	5
Birthdays.....	6
Partner Non-Profits.....	7
English Class.....	8

## September 2018



# Y'ALL COME

**Annual Y'all Come Sunday Dinner**  
Meat furnished, bring a dish or 2 to share.  
Invite your friends to church and lunch!

### September 9, 2018

**11:45 a.m. (in the gym)**

Sign up to help in Sunday School & Sanctuary.

---

### *NEW Small Group*

Sponsored by the United Methodist Women

Widows

Helping

Others

**WHO!**

An opportunity for women who have lost spouses to gather for sharing and support. All those interested are invited to gather to eat together at the Y'all Come dinner.

---

**UMW  
PANCAKE  
BREAKFAST  
September 16th**

**8:30 AM In the gym**



## News From Pews



By **Billie Nixon**  
Membership  
Coordinator



## Births

Early in the morning my phone rang— it was JoAnn Bennink with her GOOD News! She just became a great grandmother the night before on August 6th 2018. Little Alexi Michele Lander came into this world weighing 7lbs. 12 oz. and 19”

long. Her parents are Blake & Alyssa Lander of Temple, Texas.

Her grandmother is Jennifer Bennink Rodriguez. We can hardly wait to see pictures— but until then— congratulations to each of you and may God bless you and keep you safe.

## Veteran's Day Concert



Featuring the talents of:



November 11th at 4pm  
in the Sanctuary

## 90 + Member Celebration



Honoring 90 +  
Welcome New  
Member: John Nixon

Previously inducted members:

Gerry Almquist, Jane Friedrich, Helen Gibson,  
Don Morrison, Katherine Eaker, Wanda Anderson,  
Janet Clark, Betty Sampler, Earl Cole

In spite of the heavy down pour of rain, we still had a good turn out— And the Austin Harmony choir that came to entertain us was an extra special bonus!



There was plenty of ice cream and punch for all and Herb & Jan Purtle made peach ice cream for us to enjoy.

Our newest 90 member, John Nixon, stood up and was honored by the guest singers who also sang him Happy Birthday.

To those who couldn't make it due to weather— we had a great time but missed you dearly. We hope you can make next year's celebration!



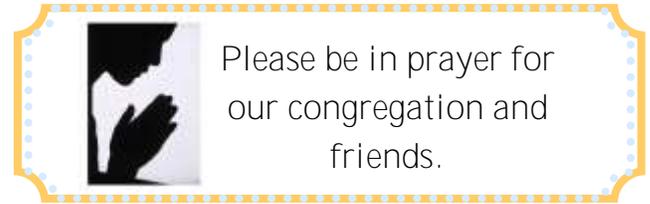


Love and concern to the following families, all who have been members of Memorial at one time or another.



**Rev. Harold G. Sassman**, 80, of Canyon Lake, Texas who passed away on Thursday, August 16, 2018 at Christus Santa Rosa Hospital New Braunfels. A memorial service was held Saturday, August 25th, 2018 at the First United Methodist Church in New Braunfels. Rev. Sassman served as an Associate Pastor at Memorial UMC from 1963-1965. [Full Obituary.](#)

**Vernon (“Buzz”) W. Hempel, Sr.**, was born May 15, 1930 to Walter and Mabel Hempel of Galveston, TX, the youngest of seven children. He passed away July 25, 2018, at home, surrounded by family. He is survived by the love of his life, Sue (Thomson) Hempel, son Vernon W. Hempel, Jr., daughter Rebecca Lynne Hempel (William Earnest), and grandson Bradley A. Hempel. His six siblings preceded him in death. [Full Obituary.](#)



**Dorothy Ann Hahn Dare** was born on November 8, 1927 and passed away on Sunday, August 12, 2018. She was a resident of Fredericksburg, Texas at the time of passing. Funeral Services were held on Saturday August 18th at 1:00 p.m. in the Fredericksburg United Methodist Church. Graveside services and interment followed in the Greenwood Cemetery.



Visitation was held August 17th in the Chapel of the Schaetter Funeral Home.

Dorothy’s connection to Memorial UMC was as the preacher’s spouse (Rev. Milton Dare) from 1962-1972. Rev. Dare passed away in 1994.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made in her memory to the FUMC, Morningside Ministries Inc, Texas Lions Camp, or to the charity of one's choice. [Full Obituary.](#)



Memorial Family:

We are sad to announce that Felicia Hefney has decided not to participate in the CYMT program and so will not be joining us here at Memorial for the next three years. This came as a very sudden decision to us here, as we were informed that she would not be arriving on the day that she was supposed to arrive, but she confessed that she did not in the end feel ready to make this kind of life change.

Pastor Cynthia has been in touch with both the CYMT offices here in Austin and the CYMT offices in Nashville. The Center for Youth Ministry Training is still an excellent model and example of the church trying to provide a theologically sound basis for youth ministry, and Pastor Cynthia has indicated to them that we would like for them to continue looking for a match for us. It could be that a match could be made sometime this fall or January, though that is less likely. The Leadership Team, Finance Team and Church Council as well as the SPRC will be meeting soon to discuss where we move forward for our youth, children and young adults. Pastor Cynthia will be happy to answer any questions that you may have to the best of ability. We hope that you will continue to keep our youth program in your prayers as well as prayers for our discernment of where God is leading us.



## Pastor's Corner

*“Above all, maintain constant love for one another, for love covers a multitude of sins. Be hospitable to one another without complaining. Like good stewards of the manifold grace of God, serve one another with whatever gift each of you has received. Whoever speaks must do so as one speaking the very words of God; whoever serves must do so with the strength that God supplies, so that God may be glorified in all things through Jesus Christ. To him belong the glory and the power forever and ever. Amen.” 1 Peter 4:8-11*

When I read the message that our graduate resident in youth ministry had decided that she couldn't come to work with us or start this program, I was stunned, saddened, grieved and (truth!) pretty mad. We had been counting on her! And not just we, I had been counting on her!

That Sunday, we were only letting a few people know because I had not had a chance to speak with the folks from the CYMT program to find out how to proceed. When Alberta Shelton got up to give her summation of Annual Conference, she said that she hoped Felicia would be leading us out into the neighborhood.

My first thought was, “Oh, I probably should have told Alberta.” My second thought was, “See! Another thing that we were counting on Felicia for!”

But my third thought was, “Why weren't we counting on Jesus to lead us out into the neighborhood? Why aren't we all there already?”

Those last thoughts were the ones that stuck the strongest (although the grief and a bit of the anger has persisted—I'm working on it!). If we want to have a strong youth program among our neighborhood youth, we should already be out there in the schools. We should already be talking about getting to know them and being present in their lives. And that's not a paid position in the church—it's something the whole of the church needs to commit to.

Alberta did have one big part right though. She didn't say that Felicia was going to go and do it for us. She wanted her to lead US out. That's a big part of any ministry—not doing it alone. The Faith, Hope and Love Sunday School class spoke about not being “Lone Ranger Christians” this past Sunday. And in addition to having each other, we have God. The passage above reminds us that we're not just taking our own message, but God's message of love and hope. We're not just serving because we want to, but because God has given us the strength we need to do what God has called us to do.

To that end, I believe we ALL need to prepare to minister to children, youth and young adults. That's hard because there is a trust gap—many youth and kids don't feel understood by adults or even cared for by them. One of the first (and easiest) steps I am asking you to take is to consider being trained in the Safe Gatherings curriculum. Even if you never teach a Sunday School class or lead a youth trip or supervise an Open Gym night, this training will help you to recognize the church's role and responsibility toward keeping youth safe and giving them a place to know they are loved by God and by the church.

You can start by going to <https://riotexas.org/safesteps>. Just below the opening section, there are instructions to get registered and go through a set of videos that will help you understand what it means to keep kids and youth and vulnerable adults (including our Rainbow Ladies!) safe. Let's be in this ministry TOGETHER, preparing for the time when we will have a staff-member partner to go WITH us into the lives in our neighborhood.

*Synthia Kepler-Haver*



**Wednesday Rehearsals**

**Choir @ 7:00 pm**



# SEPTEMBER

## 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**

10:30-1:30 Mon-Fri. Meals On Wheels-Gym Kitchen

**Saturday September 1**

\*9am-11am Free Store Shopping& Donations - Gym

**Sunday September 2**

9:15am Sunday School for all ages

10:30am Worship Service

**Monday September 3 Labor Day, Office Closed**

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

\*6:30pm Girl Scouts Believer's Room & Gym

\*7:00pm Austin Harmony - Choir room

**Tuesday September 4**

**Wednesday September 5**

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

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

\*7:00pm Choir Rehearsal

**Thursday September 6**

6:00pm Crop Hunger Walk - NEW Room

**Friday September 7**

8:00am-12:00pm Church Women United - Parlor, Sanctuary and Narthex

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

4:00pm-8:00pm Harris Grandparents Dinner -Gym

**Saturday September 8**

10am Windsor Park Neighborhood Assoc. - FHL

**Sunday September 9 Y'all Come Sunday**

9:15am Sunday School for all ages

10:30am Worship Service

11:30am Trustees - Parlor

11:45am Y'all Come Dinner - Gym

**Monday September 10**

**Tuesday September 11**

6:30pm Wesley Board - Pearce

**Wednesday September 12**

**Thursday September 13**

7:00pm Austin Ukulele Society - Gym

**Friday September 14**

**Saturday September 15** Oct. Newsletter Content Due

**Sunday September 16**

8:30am Pancake Breakfast - Gym

9:15am Sunday School for all ages

10:30am Worship Service

11:30am Leadership Team

**Monday September 17**

6:30pm Church Council Meeting - Pearce

**Tuesday September 18**

**Wednesday September 19**

**Thursday September 20**

9:30am-12:30pm English Class Registration - Parlor/Memorial/Moore/Pearce/FHL/SS Rooms

7:00pm Bread Church - Gym

**Friday September 21**

**Saturday September 22**

**Sunday September 23**

9:15am Sunday School for all ages

10:30am Worship Service

**Monday September 24**

**Tuesday September 25**

9:30am-12:30pm English Class Registration -

Parlor/Memorial/Moore/Pearce/FHL/SS Rooms

**Wednesday September 26**

**Thursday September 27**

\*9:30am-12:30 English Class - FHL

6:00pm-8:00pm Pomerleau Park Meeting -FHL

**Friday September 28**

**Saturday September 29**

**Sunday September 30**

\*Please Note that these ongoing events are in the same space and on the same day each week, such as: Choir Rehearsal, FreeStore Shopping, Girl Scouts, AH Choral and more.



# September

- 1st Geoffrey Adams  
Bob Johnson  
John Alan Nixon
- 3rd Sandra Amundson  
Nathanial Rodriguez  
Hannah Smith
- 4th Hildegard Kothman Cook
- 7th Charles Waits
- 8th Jason Ramos
- 9th Billy Ray Capps
- 10th Bea Bailey  
Kenneth Jourdan  
David Rychlik
- 11th Kevin McFarland
- 12th Pricilla Bissett  
Kristin Shelton
- 12th Taylor Elaine Stewart
- 17th Linda Arbuckle
- 19th Pat Teaney
- 21st Afton Phoenix Petersen
- 22nd Diana Valastro
- 23rd Isabel Shelton  
Irene Wright
- 24th Jason Petersen
- 25th Cameron Rodgers  
Irene Shelton
- 27th Marsha Fowler



We will be collecting donated funds for school supplies for Harris Elementary in August, September & October. Mark your donation with 'Harris Elementary' and drop in the offering plate or in the secretary's office.



## Worship Readers Wanted

We are constantly seeking people who would like to participate in worship by reading scripture or offering the Prayers of the People. We believe that the more voices we hear, the more we understand that liturgy is the work of all the people-- not just the pastor and choir.

If you would like to receive more information about doing this and get on the schedule please contact Connie Tatom 512-923-3977 to volunteer to read scripture and prayers on Sunday during worship.

Do you enjoy making bread from scratch? Have you always wanted to learn how to make your own, but are just a little intimidated by the process? Want to hang out, learn some new recipes and think about the way that God works on your spirit?



**Bread Church  
Thursday  
Sept. 20th  
At 7pm**



## Schedule Your Building Space Use

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. Check availability at 512-452-5796 or secretary@Memorialumcaustin.com



*It's back-to-volunteering season! Weekday Drivers needed; delivery routes take one hour or less; additional sites all over Austin!*

*Call Meals on Wheels Central Texas today 512-476-6325.*

Best,

Emma Roberts

Volunteer Recruitment Specialist

3227 East 5<sup>th</sup> Street

Austin, Texas 78702

p. 512.476.6325 x 145



Wednesdays

11am-1pm

and Saturdays

9am-11am



Monday,  
Wednesday,  
Friday

10am-1pm &

Saturdays 8:30am-11am

In Gym (not the office)

## Seniors Reminisce the Past



One benefit of volunteering with Senior Access is being able to listen to our senior clients share their past experiences and listen as they reminisce their

younger years. They can offer a wealth of knowledge and add **perspective to your own lives.** It's nostalgic and educational to hear how things once were.

As we grow older, we often talk about how things have changed. Change can be both exciting and unwanted. But without change, we miss opportunities for personal growth and shared experiences. As we change from August to September, we are offered many changes. Change with the new school year getting settle. Change with college kids beginning their own new adventures. Change in the weather (hopefully). Change within your own work or volunteering. As you move through September and volunteer with Senior Access, you can look forward to some changes with your routine and learning from some of our senior clients.

For many seniors, it seems that changes occur less frequently. Routines may not vary much and while that can be comforting at times, it can also become boring and create a stagnant life. Volunteers for Senior Access help seniors change up their routines. One story a volunteer shared about a client is particularly sweet. Hal had driven one client on several occasions and had gotten to know her. Because of past conversations he knew she loved seeing the beautiful Texas wildflowers in the Spring. One afternoon after a doctor appointment was finished, he decided to take this client home the long way so he could show her this route with particularly beautiful wildflowers. This extra fifteen minutes of driving provided such joy to this client and she was so grateful. Hal had listened to this client reminisce and then followed through by helping her change up her routine a little bit. This simple change was such a gift to her. Have you ever considered how you can help client enjoy a new experience?

Do you reminisce your younger years when you were in school or experiences you had in high school or college? Do you recall stories your grandparents or parents shared with you about their own childhood? As you remember conversations or experiences, you may want to include volunteering or donating as part of a way to honor a parent, grandparent or other loved one. Whether you are new to volunteering or a seasoned pro, every volunteer act you provide is important. Every donation you make is important. Thank you for remembering your past and letting senior neighbors remember and share their stories! Remember **Your Grandparents this September...Donate to Senior Access** in their honor! If you would like to become part of our volunteer team or a donor, please contact Sherrie at [vr@senioraccess.org](mailto:vr@senioraccess.org) or call 512.310.1060.

# The Newsletter



Beginning end  
of September  
through mid -  
December, we  
need 2-3

Volunteers to assist on Tuesday  
and/or Thursday mornings for  
about 2 hours with the English  
Class or childcare. Please see  
Carol Logan in Sunday services or  
call the office for more  
information on how you can serve!

Memorial United Methodist Church  
6100 Berkman Drive  
Austin, Texas 78723  
Phone: 512-452-5796  
Fax: 512-450-0323  
Web site: [www.memorialumcaustin.com](http://www.memorialumcaustin.com)

