



First United
Methodist Church
A U S T I N

FUMC Weekly

Making Disciples,
Making a Difference

FEBRUARY 5, 2017

THIS SUNDAY

A complete schedule of today's events is in "This Week" section on Calendar page.

SIGN UP FOR 2017 CROP HUNGER WALK

Table . Outside on Sidewalk

FUMC is gearing up for this mission tradition on February 26 at Camp Mabry. Sign up with Howard Hartman near the sanctuary steps or sign up in your Sunday School class or online at fumcaustin.org/cropwalk.

NEW YOUNG COUPLES CLASS BEGINS

9:45 a.m. Room 109, Family Life Center

Calling all young couples! A new Sunday School class is forming, and we want you to join us for fellowship, friendship, and fun! For more information, contact Kaycee Crisp at kayceecrisp@gmail.com.

SPIRITUALITY AND RACIAL JUSTICE

10:00 a.m. Wesley Hall

Join us for a video series with Michael Curry, Presiding Bishop of the Episcopal Church, as he discusses ways Christians can work toward racial justice. The Most Rev. Michael Curry focuses on the spiritual elements of the problem: spiritual failings that lead to racism and the ways spiritual tools are necessary to help build a more just world. He discusses racism as one of the many results of the pride that separates people from God and fighting racism as a first step toward reconciling all of humanity. Discussion will be led by Dr. Adama Brown and Pastor Cathy Stone.

FEBRUARY MISSION EMPHASIS: SHELTER MINISTRIES

FUMC currently supports two shelter programs – Family Promise and Cold Weather Shelter. Family Promise, a program of Foundation for the Homeless, provides transitional shelter for families experiencing homelessness. FUMC provides a place for families to live five to six times a year, one week at a time, in our Family Life Center. Our next hosting is February 19-March 4. Cold Weather Shelter, a program through Front Steps at the Austin Resource Center for the Homeless (ARCH), provides temporary overnight shelter on freezing nights for those experiencing homelessness. FUMC provides shelter for up to 25 women on Tuesday nights when the predicted overnight low is expected to be 35 degrees and wet or 32 degrees and dry. Your donations, marked "Shelter Ministries," may be left at the communion rail or placed in the offering plate today or any Sunday in February. You may also send them to or bring them by the church office. For more information about these ministries, contact Pastor Cathy Stone at cathy@fumcaustin.org or 512-478-5684 (ext. 215).

FEBRUARY 11, SATURDAY FATHER/DAUGHTER DANCE

Dads, granddads, uncles, etc: join us for an evening of dancing, desserts, and door prizes! The cost is \$10 per family, with proceeds donated to the FUMC Endowment Fund in memory of Cate George. For more information, contact Dan Kilday at danielkilday@hotmail.com.

**6:30-8:00 P.M.
WESLEY HALL**

FEBRUARY 19-MARCH 4 FAMILY PROMISE HOSTING

Servant hearts are needed to help with Family Promise, a shelter program of Foundation for the Homeless that provides transitional shelter for families experiencing homelessness. Volunteers of all ages provide meals, serve as overnight hosts, and host in other ways. Sign up at fumcaustin.org/familypromise.

**VARIOUS TIMES
FAMILY LIFE CENTER**

1201 Lavaca Street | Austin, Texas, 78701 | 512-478-5684 | www.fumcaustin.org

OFFICE HOURS: Monday-Wednesday, 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.; Thursday, 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.; and Sundays, 9:00-11:00 a.m.

Pastors are on call after office hours and during holidays. Call 512-478-5684, press 213, and leave message for return call.

CALENDAR

2017 CROP HUNGER WALK:
SIGN UP TO WALK OR
SUPPORT A WALKER



The Austin CROP Hunger Walk is one way the community comes together to fight hunger. This year, five local agencies will share in the funds raised: Austin Baptist Chapel Angel House, Casa Marianella, Central Texas Food Bank, Refugee Services of Texas, and Sustainable Food Center. The Walk makes a global impact through Church World Service. Take an easy, family-friendly step in fighting hunger in our community. Sign up today to walk or to support a walker at fumcaustin.org/cropwalk.

FEBRUARY 26, SUNDAY
CAMP MABRY

FEBRUARY

12 Sunday
Spirituality and Racial Justice Series
10:00 a.m.
Wesley Hall

Baptism Preparation Class
12:15 p.m.
Room 108, Education Building

18 Saturday
Early Response Team Training
8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.
Family Life Center

19 Sunday
Manna Bag Sale
9:00-11:00 a.m.
Sidewalk
Human Sexuality Class
10:00 a.m.
Murchison Chapel
Mobile Loaves & Fishes Third Sunday
4:00 p.m. and 5:00 p.m.
Mobile Loaves & Fishes Kitchen

19-MARCH 4
Family Promise Hosting
Servant Hearts Needed
fumcaustin.org/familypromise

26 Sunday
2017 CROP Hunger Walk
2:00 p.m. /2:30 p.m.
Camp Mabry, 2200 West 35th Street

28 Tuesday
Feed My People Fourth Tuesday
4:45-7:00 a.m.
Family Life Center

LENT IS COMING...

Start making plans for observing the season of Lent, a 40-day season of spiritual practice and preparation for the Festival of Easter! This year, we will work our way through Jesus' Sermon on the Mount in Matthew 5-7. As a complement, the whole church is invited to read and study Dietrich Bonhoeffer's landmark work, *The Cost of Discipleship*. Small groups will form throughout Austin for this six-week study, so plan now to join a group later in February! Sunday School classes are also invited to participate in this study.

WEEK

5 Sun	Sign Up for 2017 CROP Hunger Walk	9:00-11:00 a.m.	Sidewalk
	New Young Couples Class Begins	9:45 a.m.	Room 109, Family Life Center
	Spirituality and Racial Justice Series	10:00 a.m.	Wesley Hall
	Sunday School Classes for All Ages	10:00 a.m.	Various Locations
6 Mon	English as a Second Language (ESL)	10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.	Family Life Center
	Prodigal Sons Men's Group	6:30-8:30 p.m.	Room 103, Family Life Center
7 Tue	Feed My People Breakfast	4:45-7:00 a.m.	Great Hall, Family Life Center
	A Disciple's Heart	7:00-8:30 p.m.	Home of Karen Vannoy
8 Wed	Deadline for FUMC Weekly and eNews	10:00 a.m.	fumcaustin.org/submissions
	Wednesday Morning Bible Study	10:00 a.m.	Room 213, Sanctuary Building
	Handbell Choir Rehearsal	6:00-7:00 p.m.	Sanctuary Balcony
	FUMC Choir Rehearsal	7:00-8:30 p.m.	Choir Room, Sanctuary Building
9 Thur	Feed My People Breakfast	4:45-7:00 a.m.	Great Hall, Family Life Center
	Feed My People Breakfast Worship	6:30 a.m.	Garrison Chapel, Family Life Center
	English as a Second Language (ESL)	10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.	Family Life Center
10 Fri	Kids' Night Out	5:30-9:00 p.m.	Education Building
	Connect for Tweens	6:00-9:00 p.m.	Family Life Center
11 Sat	Father Daughter Dance	6:30 p.m.	Wesley Hall

UPCOMING EVENTS

FEBRUARY 12, SUNDAY

Baptism Preparation Class . 12:15 p.m., Room 108, Education Building

Do you anticipate having your child baptized before September? If so, it's time to sign up for a Baptism class! Come learn our beliefs about baptism, logistical information about scheduling and service preparation, and ways to help your child live the baptized life. This class is required for those preparing for baptism and only offered twice each year. To sign up, simply indicate your interest on our Communication Card in worship or send an email to Marcia Houston at marcia@fumcaustin.org. If you are interested in adult baptism, contact Pastor Taylor directly at taylor@fumcaustin.org.

FEBRUARY 18, SATURDAY

Early Response Team Training . 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m., Family Life Center

FUMC is building an Early Response Team (ERT) to work in conjunction with other United Methodist churches in our area to help victims when disasters occur. If you are interested in this initiative, register for this training session at <https://riotexas.org/early-response-team-training>. For more information, contact Ben Patterson at benandrick77@yahoo.com or (512) 217-0756.

FEBRUARY 19, SUNDAY

Manna Bag Sale . 9:00-11:00 a.m. Sidewalk

Our fourth and fifth grade children show the love of Christ to those in need through the making and selling of Manna Bags. You can purchase a bag for \$5, with proceeds going to purchase more supplies.

Human Sexuality Class . 10:00 a.m. Murchison Chapel

We are sexual beings. God made us that way. Sexuality can be celebrated, and it can be exploited. It can draw us closer to the one we love, or it can divide whole communities of faith. Regardless, we are called to be the beloved community of healing, wholeness, reconciliation, and love. The purpose of this 2016 UMW Mission University Study is to provide a framework for developing a healthy sexual ethic for our time. Come hear former Associate Pastor Jen Stuart present a short introduction to Ellen Brubaker's book study, "Human Sexuality: Claiming God's Good Gift."

Mobile Loaves & Fishes Third Sunday . MLF Kitchen . Wesley Hall

This is an opportunity for first timers of all ages to give this ministry a try. Join the Make-Ready Team from 4:00 to 5:00 p.m. (preparing the food and loading the truck) or the Truck Team from 5:00 to 6:30 p.m. (delivering the food to our hungry neighbors around Austin). Sign up at fumcaustin.org/mlf.

FEBRUARY 28, TUESDAY

Feed My People Fourth Tuesday . 4:45-7:00 a.m. Family Life Center

Come experience this ministry that serves breakfast to 300 of our homeless guests. To volunteer, preparing, cooking, and setting up begins at 4:45 a.m.; serving begins by 5:45 a.m.; and clean-up begins by 7:00 a.m. You may arrive and leave to meet your schedule. On-the-job training is available.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON THESE EVENTS AND ALL CHURCH NEWS,
PLEASE VISIT www.fumcaustin.org.

Submit content for FUMC Weekly / eNews
using submission form at fumcaustin.org/submissions.

Reserve meeting space and AV equipment by contacting Marilyn Good
at marilyn@fumcaustin.org or 512-478-5684 (ext. 204).

FAITH IN ACTION

QUIET AS A PRAYER



When you reach for a pen, fill out a Communication card, or open a hymnal, you probably aren't thinking about how those items came to be at your fingertips. Some service

is public and involves many people, some is as quiet as a prayer.

On Thursdays, Dan Wood slips into the sanctuary, picks up the little blue plastic bin containing all the printed material and pens you see in the pews, and begins his rounds. Dan was pretty much at home in the sanctuary since he started at FUMC singing in the choir, but he was much less familiar with the pews. In fact, he attended church here for nearly five years before ever sitting in a pew for a service. "It's very nice to spend time alone in this beautiful old sanctuary," he comments. "It's very quiet most of the time, except when the kids are on the playground and that's fun too." Sometimes, the job has its amusing moments. "Kids like to write on the cards and often return them to the holder instead of putting them in the offering plate. Sometimes it's sweet prayers for their pets or family. I pass those on to the prayer team. Sometimes the kids are a little older, like the one who wrote 'Something strange is going on here. I can't tell you what it is.'"

Dan's reasons for this service are as straightforward as his approach to his faith, "I like to do this because it's a good thing. I'm kind of a neat freak and I like for people to see our worship spaces looking nice when they come in. It makes it a happier place."

Thank you, Dan, for making FUMC a welcoming place.

CHURCH BUSINESS

FUMC ENDOWMENT FUND

In memory of Cate George, given by Curtis and Mary Higgs.

In memory of Evelyn Miller, given by Tom and Robbie Ausley.

GIFTS TO FUMC

To our College Sunday School Class in memory of Paul Rigby, given by Mary Dutro.

To our Ministry Plan in memory of Evelyn Miller, given by Dwain and Billie Kelley.

To our Music Ministry in memory of Paul Rigby, given by Mary Dutro.

ALTAR FLOWERS SIGN UP

Honor someone you love and appreciate, remember a departed loved one, or celebrate special days or events in your life. Arrangement cost is \$65. Contact Tami Kellberg at tami@fumcaustin.org or 512-478-5684 (ext. 226).

2017 VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Mark your calendars and get your hero capes ready to serve at this year's Vacation Bible School the week of July 31-August 4. Registration and sign up open mid-March, so stay tuned for updates at fumcaustin.org/vbs.

PRAYER

WITHIN OUR CONGREGATION

Health: Betty Berkey; Bob Block; Sandy Bowles; Raymond Lewis; Tom Jackson; Gene and Charlotte Lyerly; Virginia McCarroll; Ruth Nicks; Andrea Peck; and George Vanderhule.

Other: Travis Bias' medical mission to Uganda.

BEYOND OUR CONGREGATION

Cheryl Bias' niece, Lauren; Grady Basler and Terry Cornwell's nephew, Jack Fleetwood; Richard and Marilyn Bettis' brother-in-law, A. P. Patschke; Fay Brown's sister, Jo Rene Altenburg; Reverend Tina Carter; Robbie Cripe's mother, Billie Jorda; Melanie Dow's friends, the Harbuck family; Cheryl Etie's mother, Ruby Ramez; Ann Fields' brother, Charlie Brown; Curtis Fuelberg's and Susan Griffith's friend, Candis Erskine; Susan Griffith's friends, Norma Horton and Mary Jane Marcus; Howard and Marijo Hartman's friend, Margie Metz; Cassie Helton's mother, Betty Helton; Rob and Leslie Ivey's friends, Cris and Mike Haynes; Virginia McCarroll's friend, B. J. Wolf; Maggie Missal's friend, Kati; Kathy Morales' sister, Kim Hockensmith; Delia Peters' mother, Ruby Ybarra; Malcolm St. Romain; Alan Stephens' mother, Genevieve Stephen; Bruce Venno; Sarah Wheat's stepfather, Jim Ross; and Dick Young's nephew, Jeff Young.

STEPHEN MINISTRY



Stephen Ministers care for people dealing with convalescence, divorce, financial struggles, grief, hospitalization, job loss, loneliness, terminal illness, and other life difficulties. If you are dealing with some type of crisis or difficulty in life, email stephenministry@fumcaustin.org and ask about speaking with a Stephen Minister. All contacts are completely confidential.

DISCERNMENT ABOUT MARRIAGE EQUALITY

Since 1972, the United Methodist Church has adopted a series of denominational laws which are adverse to LGBTQ people, saying that the practice of homosexuality is "incompatible with Christian teachings," prohibiting same-sex marriages by United Methodist clergy or in United Methodist facilities, and prohibiting gay and lesbian clergy. FUMC, on the other hand, has been affirming and extending Christian love to LGBTQ people since the 1980s. In 2000, the Adelphi Sunday School Class became the first class in the country to affiliate with the Reconciling Ministries Network and other classes followed suit. In 2013, FUMC itself became a Reconciling Congregation.

The Administrative Board has adopted resolutions supporting full inclusion and equality of LGBTQ people many times in the last dozen years. The Board has also submitted numerous petitions on LGBTQ issues to the last three quadrennial General Conferences of the United Methodist Church. However, none of the discriminatory provisions in the *Book of Discipline* has been repealed. Accordingly, the FUMC Administrative Board believes that the time has come for FUMC to consider action(s) to end discriminatory practices.

The Administrative Board has appointed a committee to design a discernment process to address the conflict between the United Methodist Church *Book of Discipline* and our congregational commitment to full inclusion of LGBTQ people in the ministry of the church. Over the coming weeks, the Discernment Committee will publish a number of essays and articles relating to this discernment process including testimonials of church members, an explanation of the *Book of Discipline* provisions, a theological discussion, and consequences of various options. After Easter, the congregation will be invited to participate in one or more Discussion Meetings during May or June to discuss options for FUMC to move toward full inclusivity of all people regarding marriage. For more information, visit fumcaustin.org/discernment or email discernment@fumcaustin.org.

WORSHIP

9:00 AND 11:00 A.M. SANCTUARY

Sermon Series:



Christian clichés you may have heard before and perhaps you have repeated. Join us February 12 and 19 as we examine what the Bible says in response to phrases like these and discover the whole truth behind half-truths.

February 12

Taylor Fuerst, Preaching
"Everything Happens for a Reason"
John 11:28-44

February 19

Taylor Fuerst, Preaching
"God Helps Those Who Help
Themselves"
Philippians 2:4-13